



DELAWARE HEALTH  
AND SOCIAL SERVICES

**Division of Management Services**

1901 N. DuPont Highway  
New Castle, DE 19720

# State of Delaware

## HEALTHY WOMEN HEALTHY BABY ZONES

### Request for Proposal HSS 19 018 For Division of Public Health

*February 12, 2019*

**- Deadline to Respond –  
April 9, 2019  
11:00 AM (Local Time)**

STATE OF DELAWARE  
Delaware Health and Social Services, Division of Public Health

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES  
FOR  
HEALTHY WOMEN HEALTHY BABY ZONES  
HSS 19 018**

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**I. Overview**

The State of Delaware Department of Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Public Health, seeks professional services for Healthy Women Healthy Baby Zones. This request for proposals (“RFP”) is issued pursuant to 29 *Del. C.* §§ [6981](#) and [6982](#).

The proposed schedule of events subject to the RFP is outlined below:

Public Notice	Date: February 12, 2019
Deadline for Questions	Date: February 26, 2019
Pre-bid Meeting	Date: March 5, 2019 at 9:30am
Response to Questions Posted by:	Date: March 19, 2019
Deadline for Receipt of Proposals Time)	Date: April 9, 2019 at 11:00 AM (Local

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Estimated Notification of Award

Date: April 23, 2019

Estimated Project Begin Date

Date: July 1, 2019

Each proposal must be accompanied by a transmittal letter which briefly summarizes the proposing firm's interest in providing the required professional services. The transmittal letter must also clearly state and justify any exceptions to the requirements of the RFP which the applicant may have taken in presenting the proposal. (Applicant exceptions must also be recorded on Attachment 3).

The State of Delaware reserves the right to deny any and all exceptions taken to the RFP requirements.

**NON-MANDATORY PRE-BID MEETING**

A non-mandatory pre-bid meeting has been scheduled for **March 5, 2019 at 9:30 AM** at Delaware Health and Social Services, Herman M. Holloway Sr. Campus, Procurement Branch, Main Administration Building, Sullivan Street, First Floor Conference Room #198, 1901 North DuPont Highway, New Castle, DE 19720.

**This is a non-mandatory meeting.** If a Vendor does not attend this meeting, they shall not be disqualified and shall still be considered for further evaluation.

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## **II. Scope of Services**

### **A. Background**

The mission of the Division of Public Health is to protect and enhance the health of the people of Delaware. The Division accomplishes its mission by:

- working together with others;
- addressing issues that affect the health of Delawareans;
- keeping track of the State's health;
- promoting positive lifestyles;
- responding to critical health issues and disasters;
- promoting the availability of health services.

The accomplishment of this mission will facilitate the Division in realizing its vision of creating an environment in which people in Delaware can reach their full potential for a healthy life.

The Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) is a public health indicator of a complex societal problem. Numerous frameworks have been used to help understand the multiple determinants of infant mortality in a society and to identify interventions to reduce infant mortality. While the root social causes of infant mortality—persistent poverty, pervasive and subtle racism, and the chronic stresses associated with them—may not be easy to address, it is still possible to understand the risks of infant death by examining the biological pathways through which these societal forces act. Infant mortality is understood as the product of two major chains of events that begin with:

- A sequence of socioeconomic and biological forces on the mother's health that influence the outcome of her pregnancy.
- The adverse outcome of this sequence of events is usually the delivery of a premature, low birth weight or sick neonate.

The second component of infant mortality is:

- The likelihood that the infant will survive given their health status at birth. (This latter component often reflects the medical care provided to high-risk pregnant women and their small, sick neonates.)

For the past decade most of the effort by the Department of Health and Social Services to address the inordinately high infant mortality rate has focused on that second component – the medical care provided to high-risk pregnant women and their small, sick neonates. This strategic effort has been spearheaded by the Governor appointed Delaware Healthy Mother and Infant Consortium, which has helped drop the infant mortality rate from a high of 9.3 deaths per 1000 live births to 7.5. Even with this decrease, the Delaware rate is still substantially higher than the US rate of 5.9.

The social determinants of health (SDOH) are often defined as the circumstances in which people are born, grow up, live, work, and age. The World Health Organization

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(WHO) explains that these circumstances are in turn shaped by a wider set of forces: economics, social policies (such as education, social security and welfare), and politics (including power and decision making). This understanding of the SDOH is important in relation to health equity, as it recognizes that economic, social and political conditions are not naturally occurring. Instead, these conditions are the result of public policy and other community or collective actions. Therefore, the SDOH are rooted in long-term structures and traditions that may be resistant to change.

Socioeconomic factors are important determinants of health because they create inequitable differences in health outcomes. The World Health Organization has identified 10 social determinants of health:

- the social gradient
- stress
- early life
- social exclusion
- work
- unemployment
- social support
- addiction
- food
- transportation

Of these 10, the single strongest predictor of our health and wellbeing is our position on the social gradient (or the 'social ladder'). Whether measured by income, education, place of residence or occupation, those people at the top of the gradient have the most power and resources, and on average live longer and healthier lives. Those people at the bottom have the least power and usually run at least twice the risk of serious illness and premature death as those near the top.

Where we are promoting health and wellbeing, we need to focus on the issues most relevant to people's lives. For example, if a person is struggling to survive financially is unemployed or in poor housing, and then changing individual risk behaviors such as smoking, nutrition or physical activity may be a low priority for them. For people most vulnerable or those with complex needs, the most immediate need is usually to focus on the social determinants of health.

Another area that can help demonstrate how determinants affects health is poor housing. Poor housing conditions are associated with unsafe sleeping conditions, stress, and exposure to environmental hazards. For pregnant women, infants, and young children such exposures can result in life-threatening conditions. The lack of a crib or a bassinet, crowded living space, room temperature, and rodent infestation may all be contributing factors to sleep-related infant injury death (i.e., SIDS/SUID).

The correlation between educational attainment and birth outcomes, for example, is unmistakable. The Healthy Women Healthy Babies (HWHB) population, a program operated contractually through the Division of Public Health, is at the highest risk of poor birth outcomes. Not surprisingly, their educational attainment is uniformly lower than the public. According to a recent evaluation of the HWHB program 65% of HWHB clients have 12 years or less of schooling. By comparison, only 39 percent of a comparable population not enrolled in HWHB has 12 years or less of schooling.

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Essential to addressing the determinants of health is a cross-sectoral and cross-departmental approach. Protective factors are described as health-promoting behaviors, healthy conditions and environments, psychosocial factors and effective health services. Protective factors for health can have a positive impact on health outcomes. For example, easy access to healthy and affordable food is more likely to lead to eating adequate vegetables and fruit every day, which can help protect against certain chronic conditions such as hypertension, overweight and obesity, which in a pregnant woman may lead to a poor birth outcome.

Risk factors can have a negative effect on health. They include lifestyle or behavioral risk factors such as smoking, poor nutrition, excessive or risky alcohol intake, physical inactivity and psychosocial conditions such as isolation, low self-esteem and abuse. There are also physiological risk factors such as high blood pressure, high cholesterol and genetic features. Risk factors may also be present as a result of social and environmental conditions such as natural resource depletion, polluted environments and discrimination.

For pregnant women, infants, and young children such exposures to these risk factors and toxic stress can result in life threatening conditions, as well as infant deaths. Research and experience shows that women, children and families do better and thrive when they live in strong and supportive communities. Building on research and evidence gathered through large, multiyear studies, DPH is proposing that in order to influence driving down the state's infant mortality rate, that there be a concentrated effort to implement non-medical community-based interventions to address the social determinants of health. Delaware's infant mortality rate of **7.5 deaths per 1000** births is higher than the US. rate of 5.9 deaths per 1000 (**2011-2015**). In spite of significant improvements over the past decade, a racial disparity stubbornly persists in birth outcomes. The average infant mortality rate among blacks in Delaware is **12.5/1000 in 2012-2016**, compared to **5.1/1000** for whites.

## **B. Project Goals**

The aim of the Healthy Women Healthy Baby Zones RFP, as part of the Infant Mortality reduction work in Delaware, is to build state and local capacity, and test small scale innovative strategies to shift the impact of social determinants of health tied to root causes related to infant mortality. The primary focus is innovation and to spread evidence-based programs and place-based strategies to improve social determinants of health and equity in birth outcomes. Specific project examples are highlighted (see Appendix D) and include supporting place-based initiatives and "zonal" approaches in communities with high risk indicators such as high infant mortality, high premature birth rates, poverty and/or other risk factors and enabling women of childbearing age, children and their families to achieve optimum health and well-being across the life course.

## **C. Scope of Services**

The Department is looking for key community organizations, the faith-based community and other stakeholders to address community needs with a range of services and or programs that will mitigate the social context conditions and risk factors that conspire to compromise the health and wellbeing of vulnerable populations, especially women of childbearing age. This RFP seeks a contractor to serve as the backbone organization to

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subcontract, support and manage the key organizations directly delivering the needed interventions.

Two of the top drivers for infant mortality in Delaware are preterm births and low birthweight births. This RFP seeks proposals for strategies addressing challenges across the state, with special emphasis on the HWHB Zones, with the ultimate goal of reducing preterm and low birth weight rates.

The awarded contractor will support the Department through facilitation and project management to implement the HWHB Zones SDOH project that will provide grants for 3 to 6 subcontractor organizations (community based faith-based and other stakeholder organizations) by September 2019. The contractor will use a collective impact approach to ensure the subcontractors are fully engaged around intent and implementation to successfully implement interventions to address SDOH driving poor birth outcomes. The contractor will provide operational oversight (administrative and financial) to the subcontractor projects on behalf of the Department.

The awarded contractor will meet the following essential core functions:

- Establish a sustainable financing mechanism for supporting the implementation of promising SDOH interventions (through an established “mini-grant” process) and the provision of needed planning and evaluation services.
- Provide administrative and fiscal resource support to the subcontracting organizations and the ongoing measurement and evaluation of impacts
- Provide lead support to the SDOH Advisory Committee to oversee all components of the HWHB SDOH Initiative and steers its path forward.
- Provide technical assistance to the selected “mini-grant” organizations in data collection/tracking measures, budgeting and in continuous quality improvement.

Include a brief synopsis of the project management approach/activities planned for overseeing this work. Include a systematic chart to show flow of communication and supervision/monitoring pathways of project staff, subcontractors, and the program governance through the “Advisory Committee”.

Summarize the coordination among key program, fiscal, and QI/technical assistance staff. Outline the methodology for soliciting, the process of awarding “mini-grants” and the fiscal and program monitoring of contracts and subcontracts.

Proposals submitted must tie back to the Social Determinant of Health and Health Equity Measures for Perinatal, Infant and Family Health. See Appendix E for measures and facilitate the implementation of activities and strategies in the following areas.

1) Social Networking for Empowerment

- Discuss how your program intervention will strengthen and broaden the use of social networking capacity for empowerment as a key strategy.
- Describe whether you will use online social networking technological tools, face-to-face meetings of a social support, moms groups, community engagement, and/or other approaches, as a means of connecting women as mothers and/or parents to peer support and communication

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2) Father/partner involvement and engagement

- Discuss how your program will engage and promote fathers/male partners involvement in education, activities, services and events affiliated with Healthy Women Healthy Babies program and infants/children.
- Describe your specific activities intended to improve the health, mental health, and resilience of fathers/male partners by supporting healthy relationships between parents/partners, building life skills, and supporting opportunities for self-sufficiency and economic stability of the family
- Discuss how you will engage community partners in your proposed strategies to encourage paternal involvement

3) Toxic Stress/Adverse Childhood Experiences

- Exposure to childhood abuse (e.g., physical, mental, or sexual abuse) and experiences of household dysfunction (e.g., parental substance abuse, mental illness, incarceration, violence, and separation or divorce) lead to poor health and development for children, and increased adult health problems (e.g., heart disease, depression, smoking, intimate partner violence, risky sexual behavior, and alcohol or drug abuse). Propose a trauma informed intervention or strategy that focuses on protective factors and resilience, to improve outcomes for women and infants/children.

4) Financial Empowerment/Self Sufficiency

- Financial wellness is one of the most potent predictors of overall health, and it is particularly important during a major life event such as pregnancy. According to several sources of data, cost is a barrier to accessing prenatal care as well as other basic needs for families to thrive. Propose a strategy that supports opportunities for self-sufficiency and economic stability of women, pregnant women and/or their family.

Awarded “mini-grant” vendors must demonstrate an understanding of the social determinants of health, which determinant they propose to address and, how their particular intervention will enable residents to challenge the target determinant in an area defined by the “mini-grant” awardee. The area may be considered a neighborhood as defined by local residents or a larger area following known political or geographic boundaries.

Additionally the “mini-grant” vendors must demonstrate a working knowledge of the priority communities, a deep understanding of the cultural mores of the populations to be served and a well thought out engagement strategy.

Funding will be available for projects that foster the development of novel community-based interventions that address Social Determinant of Health and Health Equity Measures for Perinatal, Infant and Family Health, and demonstrate the feasibility of such approaches in Delaware. Proposals need to provide a compelling rationale, delineate clear and appropriate strategies, include evidence- based information for projects, appropriate evaluation and fit within the goals of the infant mortality reduction strategic



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efforts through the Delaware Healthy Mother and Infant Consortium, DHSS/DPH and its respected stakeholders.

**Required Information.** All components listed in this section are mandatory. The following information shall be provided in each proposal in the order listed below. Failure to respond to any request for information within this proposal may result in rejection of the proposal at the sole discretion of the State.

**1. Develop a mini-grant process or similar approach to fund local communities/organizations to implement interventions to address social determinants of health in priority communities throughout Delaware.**

The vendor will be responsible for screening, awarding, administering and monitoring a “mini-grant” *program* or resource assistance program to various community organizations or coalitions. This program provides funding to community-based organizations in order to strengthen the capacity of these groups to address socioeconomic factors that have the most impact of the community and to build relationships among multiple sectors of the community, such as housing, education, business, planning, and transportation. The funds must only be awarded to communities/organizations/coalitions that address one or more of the five priority areas in their proposals and have specific measurable objectives. In selecting the proposals, the vendor will work in collaboration with DPH/DHSS to convene an “Advisory committee” to include at least one representative from the DPH Healthy Women Healthy Babies Program and others as designated by DPH. The vendor will be responsible for ensuring that the process for awarding any mini-grant or resource assistance to community-based organizations or coalitions be in line with the Delaware Procurement Code, are publically advertised, and properly evaluated and awarded using published eligibility and evaluation criteria.

The bidder should ensure that “mini-grantees” clearly articulate the Healthy Women Healthy Baby Zone and areas within a zone they plan to serve. Areas are defined by zip codes and census tracts. A “mini-grant” project can submit a proposal for one zone or multiple zones as long as they have proof of experience serving the community in question or a demonstrated tract record of quickly developing relationships with communities.

**2. Provide training and technical assistance.**

The vendor will be responsible for providing local and statewide training, conferences and technical assistance on best practices for program development, management, evaluation and quality improvement.

Audiences should include (but not limited to) mini grant recipients, local coalitions and community organizations.

**3. Enhance the use of existing programs for resilience, and self-sufficiency**

The vendor will acquire brochures, videos, curricula, journals, and other appropriate materials (i.e. Adult Education, WIC, \$tand-By-Me, Medical Legal Partnership and Home Visiting services) and make them available to various organizations, communities etc.

#### 4. Coordination with Community Health Workers

A major component of this work, will involve the use of Community Health Workers (CHWs). The Division of Public Health will be contracting separately with and funding community based organizations focused on serving the high-risk zones to support a centralized system of recruiting, hiring, scheduling, and training qualified Community Health Workers (CHWs) to support the Healthy Women Healthy Baby Zones and address maternal and child health prevention and education more broadly.

The selected contractor and “mini-grant” vendors will be required to work with Community Health Workers (CHW) assigned to the target HWHB zone(s) in which the “mini-grant” vendors provide services. The CHW will function, in part, as facilitators, navigators and medical/cultural/social interpreters between the community and service providers.

A Community Health Worker (CHW), Health Ambassador, Lay Health Advisor (LHA), or Promotora, defined as an individual who is indigenous to his or her community and consents to be a link between community members and the service delivery system.<sup>1,2</sup> Many health programs have turned to Health Ambassadors for their capacity to strengthen already existing community network ties<sup>3</sup> as well as their unique ability as connectors because many live in the communities in which they work, communicate in the language of the people in these communities, understand what is important to those communities, and recognize and integrate cultural buffers – such as cultural identity and traditional health practices – to help community members cope with stress and promote health outcomes.<sup>4,5,6</sup>

In addition, CHWs are able to build partnerships with formal health care delivery systems to connect individuals with the services they need and to stimulate social action that influences community participation in the health system. CHWs also educate providers about the community's health needs and the cultural relevancy of interventions by helping providers and health care systems build their cultural competency. Using their unique position, skills, and expanded knowledge base, CHWs can also feasibly help reduce health care and personal costs as they help improve outcomes for community members. The CHWs will be specifically responsible for:

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<sup>1</sup> Service, C. and Salber, E (eds.). *Community Health Education: The Lay Health Advisor Approach*. Durham, NC, Duke University Health Care System, 1979.

<sup>2</sup> Eng, E. and Young, R. (1992). Lay health advisors as community change agents. *J Fam Community Health*, 15(1):4-40.

<sup>3</sup> Institute of Medicine (2002). *Unequal Treatment: Confronting Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health Care*. Washington, DC: Institute of Medicine.

<sup>4</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2011). CDC's Division of Diabetes Translation. Community Health Workers/Promotores de Salud: Critical connections in Communities. Retrieved from: <http://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/projects/comm.htm>.

<sup>5</sup> Walters, K. and Simoni, J. (2002). Reconceptualizing native women's health: an “indigenous” stress-coping model. *Am J Public Health*, 92, 520-524.

<sup>6</sup> Wilson, K., Bronstein, J., Blanton, C. (1998). Community Health Advisor Use: Insights from a National Survey. In: US Department of Human Services, Centers for Disease Control: *Community Health Advisors/Community Health Workers: Selected Annotations and Programs in the United States*, Volume III.

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- Bridging cultural mediation between communities and the health care system;
- Providing culturally appropriate and accessible health education and information, often by using popular education methods;
- Assuring that people get the services they need;
- Providing informal counseling and social support;
- Advocating for individuals and communities within the health and social service systems;
- Providing direct services (such as basic first aid) and administering health screening tests; and
- Building individual and community capacity.

## **5. Methodology & Work Plan**

Potential bidders will provide a work plan, timeline, and budget for the first twelve (12) months of the project and a separate projected work plan, timeline, and budget for four (4) additional years. The plan and budget should reflect long-term sustainability.

## **6. Program Governance**

In collaboration with the selected vendor, DPH will establish a “Social Determinant of Health and Infant Mortality Advisory Team or Committee” that will operate and report to the Delaware Healthy Mother and Infant Consortium (DHMIC) to assess, manage, and evaluate the performance of the initiatives selected and funded on an ongoing basis. The selected vendor will be required to be a participant of the Advisory Committee meetings and report out on program implementation and progress.

The “Advisory Committee” serves as a learning network and will (but not limited to):

- Support collaborative engagement of the community on program goals and build mutual accountability between the State and providers through regular and quality contact
- Offer deliberate space for providers to share learnings (best practices, barriers, challenges, etc.) and a platform to develop and review recommendations for continuous improvement and opportunity to scale up and spread.
- Review state policies and programs that impact the SDOH for infants and women of childbearing age, particularly program examples intended to improve educational attainment, public transportation options, housing, and access to employment.
- Identify opportunities to improve the programs and policies
- Study of the impact of using a state funded housing assistance program targeted at infant mortality reduction
- Evaluate best practices other states have implemented to improve the social determinants of health for infants and women of childbearing age
- Identify and understand the status of community health needs; Define improvement areas to guide the community toward implementing and sustaining policy, systems, and environmental changes around healthy living strategies (e.g., increased physical activity, improved nutrition, reduced tobacco use and exposure, and chronic disease management);

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The “Advisory Committee” would include at minimum, a representative from the Division of Public Health, the Division of Medicaid & Medical Assistance, the Delaware State Housing Authority, a local housing authority that operates at least 100-500 units in the state, education, planning and community development, transportation, the Division of Social Services, legal services, youth and family services and other public and private organizations intended to benefit the quality of life for the community as well as people living and working in the target community. A key objective is to build and foster public/private partnerships to address community and Statewide Social Determinants of Health (SDOH).

The committee’s standing agenda will include (but not limited to):

- Review of performance, and outcomes data;
- Review of relevant state/population level data;
- Share-out of best practices/barriers/challenges;
- Review of recommendations for continuous improvement; and
- Provider-sponsored agenda items.

**7. Benchmark Measures of Success (see Appendix E)**

DHSS is interested in working with a provider to prioritize the list of Social Determinant of Health and Health Equity Measures for Perinatal, Infant, and Family Health outcomes tracked to deepen both funder and provider understanding of program impact. Data sources and data sharing for measuring performance will, therefore, be defined and agreed to between both parties.

The vendor shall work with the “mini-grant” funded projects to submit a report to DPH/DHSS quarterly on progress toward achieving the benchmark goals. For those selected “mini-grant” vendors milestones will be developed to help meet the Benchmarks during the contract term. Failure to ensure compliance with reporting requirements once an award is made may result in further actions or termination of the contract.

DPH/DHSS will measure success by tracking the benchmarks listed below to monitor the collective impact and the effectiveness of the program. Depending on the characteristics of the communities, DHSS may also measure success through additional benchmarks and outcomes if these will lead to a better understanding of provider and program performance.

DHSS values providers as partners in selecting performance measures and analyzing and discussing outcomes data. Together, this data collected on the progress of the program and its impact, is intended not only to demonstrate the program’s results, but also to be used as a tool throughout program implementation to inform real-time program and system improvements in pursuit of the best outcomes. Some performance measures (“priority outcomes”) will be used to evaluate programs effectiveness; whereas others (“other outcomes of interest”) will be used in tandem with qualitative data for program improvement and best-practice sharing conversations.

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Providers are expected to share performance data on the following outputs and outcomes:

*Example:*

<b>Measure</b>	<b>Targets</b>	<b>Quarterly Data Required</b>
Decrease the percentage of pregnant women identified residing in unsafe or substandard living conditions.	Baseline:	
	Benchmark:	
Increase the number of adults reporting that they receive the social and emotional support they need	Baseline:	
	Benchmark:	

## 8. Data and Quality Improvement Requirements

- ❖ Quarterly reports and coordination with DPH and the Delaware Healthy Mother and Infant Consortium (DHMIC).

Provide quarterly reports to the DPH/DHSS and the DHMIC to ensure efforts are aligned with the overall Infant Mortality reduction strategic efforts, including the Healthy Women Healthy Babies Program. The reports will provide status on benchmark performance measures on each funded “mini-grant” project and activities. The vendor will communicate with staff from the DPH/DHSS with regularly scheduled meetings to support a comprehensive and coordinated collective impact approach.

- ❖ Quality Improvement

The selected bidder is required to support the “mini-grantees” in quality improvement (QI) efforts informed by participant level, program level and community level data.

- Describe how your proposed intervention program will have the capacity and leadership support to collect and analyze data (i.e. at the individual program participant level) in order to identify opportunities for QI.
- Describe how the proposed program intervention will identify opportunities for QI (i.e. to close the gap between knowledge and practice) related to the activities, services, and supports.

The Division reserves the right to modify the data and reporting methodology at any time under this RFP.

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**III. Required Information**

The following information shall be provided in each proposal in the order listed below. Failure to respond to any request for information within this proposal may result in rejection of the proposal at the sole discretion of the State.

**A. Minimum Requirements**

1. Provide Delaware license(s) and/or certification(s) necessary to perform services as identified in the scope of work.

Prior to the execution of an award document, the successful Vendor shall either furnish the Agency with proof of State of Delaware Business Licensure or initiate the process of application where required.

2. Vendor shall provide responses to the Request for Proposal (RFP) scope of work and clearly identify capabilities as presented in the General Evaluation Requirements below.
3. Complete all appropriate attachments and forms as identified within the RFP.
4. Proof of insurance and amount of insurance shall be furnished to the Agency prior to the start of the contract period and shall be no less than as identified in the bid solicitation, Section V, Item 8, subsection g subsection f (insurance).

**B. General Evaluation Requirements**

1. Experience and Reputation
2. Expertise (for this particular project)
3. Capacity to meet requirements (size, financial condition, etc.)
4. Location (geographical)
5. Demonstrated ability
6. Familiarity with this type of work and its requirements

**IV. Professional Services RFP Administrative Information**

**A. RFP Issuance**

**1. Public Notice**

Public notice has been provided in accordance with 29 *Del. C.* [§6981](#).

**2. Obtaining Copies of the RFP**

This RFP is available in electronic form through the State of Delaware Procurement website at [www.bids.delaware.gov](http://www.bids.delaware.gov). Paper copies of this RFP will not be available.

**3. Assistance to Vendors with a Disability**

Vendors with a disability may receive accommodation regarding the means of communicating this RFP or participating in the procurement process. For more information, contact the Designated Contact no later than ten days prior to the deadline for receipt of proposals.

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**4. RFP Designated Contact**

All requests, questions, or other communications about this RFP shall be made in writing to the State of Delaware. Address all communications to the person listed below; communications made to other State of Delaware personnel or attempting to ask questions by phone or in person will not be allowed or recognized as valid and may disqualify the vendor. Vendors should rely only on written statements issued by the RFP designated contact.

Mawuna Gardesey  
Public Health Administrator  
E-mail Address: [mawuna.gardesey@state.de.us](mailto:mawuna.gardesey@state.de.us)  
Phone # (302)744-4953  
Fax# (302)739-6653

To ensure that written requests are received and answered in a timely manner, electronic mail (e-mail) correspondence is acceptable, but other forms of delivery, such as postal and courier services can also be used.

**5. Consultants and Legal Counsel**

The State of Delaware may retain consultants or legal counsel to assist in the review and evaluation of this RFP and the vendors' responses. Bidders shall not contact the State's consultant or legal counsel on any matter related to the RFP.

**6. Contact with State Employees**

Direct contact with State of Delaware employees other than the State of Delaware Designated Contact regarding this RFP is expressly prohibited without prior consent. Vendors directly contacting State of Delaware employees risk elimination of their proposal from further consideration. Exceptions exist only for organizations currently doing business in the State who require contact in the normal course of doing that business.

**7. Organizations Ineligible to Bid**

Any individual, business, organization, corporation, consortium, partnership, joint venture, or any other entity including subcontractors currently debarred or suspended is ineligible to bid. Any entity ineligible to conduct business in the State of Delaware for any reason is ineligible to respond to the RFP.

**8. Exclusions**

The Proposal Evaluation Team reserves the right to refuse to consider any proposal from a vendor who:

- a. Has been convicted for commission of a criminal offense as an incident to obtaining or attempting to obtain a public or private contract or subcontract, or in the performance of the contract or subcontract:
- b. Has been convicted under State or Federal statutes of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, receiving stolen property, or other offense indicating a lack of business integrity or business honesty that currently and seriously affects responsibility as a State contractor:
- c. Has been convicted or has had a civil judgment entered for a violation under State or Federal antitrust statutes:
- d. Has violated contract provisions such as;

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- 1) Knowing failure without good cause to perform in accordance with the specifications or within the time limit provided in the contract; or
- 2) Failure to perform or unsatisfactory performance in accordance with terms of one or more contracts;
- e. Has violated ethical standards set out in law or regulation; and
- f. Any other cause listed in regulations of the State of Delaware determined to be serious and compelling as to affect responsibility as a State contractor, including suspension or debarment by another governmental entity for a cause listed in the regulations.

**B. RFP Submissions**

**1. Acknowledgement of Understanding of Terms**

By submitting a bid, each vendor shall be deemed to acknowledge that it has carefully read all sections of this RFP, including all forms, schedules and exhibits hereto, and has fully informed itself as to all existing conditions and limitations.

**2. Proposals**

To be considered, all proposals must be submitted in writing and respond to the items outlined in this RFP. The State reserves the right to reject any non-responsive or non-conforming proposals. **Each proposal must be submitted with 2 paper copies and 6 electronic copies on CD or DVD media disk.**

**HARD COPIES**

Each required copy must contain the following sections:

1. Technical Proposal
2. Business Proposal/Budget – Budget must not be included in or attached to the Technical Proposal.

**ELECTRONIC COPIES**

Each required CD or DVD must contain a minimum of two files as follows:

1. Technical Proposal – One document in PDF or Word Format
2. Business Proposal – In Excel or Word

All properly sealed and marked proposals are to be sent to the State of Delaware and received no later than **11:00 AM (Local Time) on April 9, 2019**. The Proposals may be delivered by Express Delivery (e.g., FedEx, UPS, etc.), US Mail, or by hand to:

**Kimberly Jones  
Purchasing Services Administrator  
Department of Health and Social Services  
Procurement Branch  
Main Admin Bldg., Sullivan Street  
2<sup>nd</sup> floor –room #257  
1901 N. DuPont Hwy  
Herman Holloway Campus  
New Castle, DE 19720**



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**DHSS\_DMS\_dmsprocure@state.de.us**

Vendors are directed to clearly **print “BID ENCLOSED” and the RFP number “HSS 19 018”** on the outside of the bid submission package.

**Bidder name should also be clearly visible on the outside of the package.**

Any proposal submitted by US Mail shall be sent either certified or registered mail. Proposal must be received at the above address no later **than 11:00 AM (Local Time) on April 9, 2019.**

Any proposal received after the Deadline for Receipt of Proposals date shall not be considered and shall be returned unopened. The proposing vendor bears the risk of delays in delivery. The contents of any proposal shall not be disclosed as to be made available to competing entities during the negotiation process.

Upon receipt of vendor proposals, each vendor shall be presumed to be thoroughly familiar with all specifications and requirements of this RFP. The failure or omission to examine any form, instrument or document shall in no way relieve vendors from any obligation in respect to this RFP.

**3. Proposal Modifications**

Any changes, amendments or modifications to a proposal must be made in writing, submitted in the same manner as the original response and conspicuously labeled as a change, amendment or modification to a previously submitted proposal. Changes, amendments or modifications to proposals shall not be accepted or considered after the hour and date specified as the deadline for submission of proposals.

**4. Proposal Costs and Expenses**

The State of Delaware will not pay any costs incurred by any Vendor associated with any aspect of responding to this solicitation, including proposal preparation, printing or delivery, attendance at vendor's conference, system demonstrations or negotiation process.

**5. Proposal Expiration Date**

Prices quoted in the proposal shall remain fixed and binding on the bidder at least through April 8, 2020. The State of Delaware reserves the right to ask for an extension of time if needed.

**6. Late Proposals**

Proposals received after the specified date and time will not be accepted or considered. To guard against premature opening, sealed proposals shall be submitted, plainly marked with the proposal title, vendor name, and time and date of the proposal opening. Evaluation of the proposals is expected to begin shortly after the proposal due date. To document compliance with the deadline, the proposal will be date and time stamped upon receipt.

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**7. Proposal Opening**

The State of Delaware will receive proposals until the date and time shown in this RFP. Proposals will be opened in the presence of State of Delaware personnel. Any unopened proposals will be returned to the submitting Vendor.

There will be no public opening of proposals but a public log will be kept of the names of all vendor organizations that submitted proposals. The contents of any proposal shall not be disclosed in accordance with [Executive Order # 31](#) and Title 29, Delaware Code, [Chapter 100](#).

**8. Non-Conforming Proposals**

Non-conforming proposals will not be considered. Non-conforming proposals are defined as those that do not meet the requirements of this RFP. The determination of whether an RFP requirement is substantive or a mere formality shall reside solely within the State of Delaware.

**9. Concise Proposals**

The State of Delaware discourages overly lengthy and costly proposals. It is the desire that proposals be prepared in a straightforward and concise manner. Unnecessarily elaborate brochures or other promotional materials beyond those sufficient to present a complete and effective proposal are not desired. The State of Delaware's interest is in the quality and responsiveness of the proposal.

**10. Realistic Proposals**

It is the expectation of the State of Delaware that vendors can fully satisfy the obligations of the proposal in the manner and timeframe defined within the proposal. Proposals must be realistic and must represent the best estimate of time, materials and other costs including the impact of inflation and any economic or other factors that are reasonably predictable.

The State of Delaware shall bear no responsibility or increase obligation for a vendor's failure to accurately estimate the costs or resources required to meet the obligations defined in the proposal.

**11. Confidentiality of Documents**

Subject to applicable law or the order of a court of competent jurisdiction to the contrary, all documents submitted as part of the vendor's proposal will be treated as confidential during the evaluation process. As such, vendor proposals will not be available for review by anyone other than the State of Delaware/Proposal Evaluation Team or its designated agents. There shall be no disclosure of any vendor's information to a competing vendor prior to award of the contract unless such disclosure is required by law or by order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

The State of Delaware and its constituent agencies are required to comply with the State of Delaware Freedom of Information Act, [29 Del. C. § 10001, et seq.](#) ("FOIA"). FOIA requires that the State of Delaware's records are public records (unless otherwise declared by FOIA or other law to be exempt from disclosure) and are subject to inspection and copying by any person upon a written request. Once a proposal is received by the State of Delaware and a decision on contract award is

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made, the content of selected and non-selected vendor proposals will likely become subject to FOIA's public disclosure obligations.

The State of Delaware wishes to create a business-friendly environment and procurement process. As such, the State respects the vendor community's desire to protect its intellectual property, trade secrets, and confidential business information (collectively referred to herein as "confidential business information"). Proposals must contain sufficient information to be evaluated. If a vendor feels that they cannot submit their proposal without including confidential business information, they must adhere to the following procedure or their proposal may be deemed unresponsive, may not be recommended for selection, and any applicable protection for the vendor's confidential business information may be lost.

In order to allow the State to assess its ability to protect a vendor's confidential business information, vendors will be permitted to designate appropriate portions of their proposal as confidential business information.

Vendor(s) may submit portions of a proposal considered to be confidential business information in a separate, sealed envelope labeled "Confidential Business Information" and include the specific RFP number. The envelope must contain a letter from the Vendor's legal counsel describing the documents in the envelope, representing in good faith that the information in each document is not "public record" as defined by 29 Del. C. § 10002, and briefly stating the reasons that each document meets the said definitions.

Upon receipt of a proposal accompanied by such a separate, sealed envelope, the State of Delaware will open the envelope to determine whether the procedure described above has been followed. A vendor's allegation as to its confidential business information shall not be binding on the State. The State shall independently determine the validity of any vendor designation as set forth in this section. Any vendor submitting a proposal or using the procedures discussed herein expressly accepts the State's absolute right and duty to independently assess the legal and factual validity of any information designated as confidential business information. Accordingly, Vendor(s) assume the risk that confidential business information included within a proposal may enter the public domain.

**12. Price Not Confidential**

Vendors shall be advised that as a publically bid contract, no Vendor shall retain the right to declare their pricing confidential.

**13. Multi-Vendor Solutions (Joint Ventures)**

Multi-vendor solutions (joint ventures) will be allowed only if one of the venture partners is designated as the "**prime contractor**". The "**prime contractor**" must be the joint venture's contact point for the State of Delaware and be responsible for the joint venture's performance under the contract, including all project management, legal and financial responsibility for the implementation of all vendor systems. If a joint venture is proposed, a copy of the joint venture agreement clearly describing the responsibilities of the partners must be submitted with the proposal. Services specified in the proposal shall not be subcontracted without prior written approval by the State of Delaware, and approval of a request to subcontract shall not in any way relieve Vendor of responsibility for the professional and technical accuracy and

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adequacy of the work. Further, vendor shall be and remain liable for all damages to the State of Delaware caused by negligent performance or non-performance of work by its subcontractor or its sub-subcontractor.

Multi-vendor proposals must be a consolidated response with all cost included in the cost summary. Where necessary, RFP response pages are to be duplicated for each vendor.

**a. Primary Vendor**

The State of Delaware expects to negotiate and contract with only one “prime vendor”. The State of Delaware will not accept any proposals that reflect an equal teaming arrangement or from vendors who are co-bidding on this RFP. The prime vendor will be responsible for the management of all subcontractors.

Any contract that may result from this RFP shall specify that the prime vendor is solely responsible for fulfillment of any contract with the State as a result of this procurement. The State will make contract payments only to the awarded vendor. Payments to any-subcontractors are the sole responsibility of the prime vendor (awarded vendor).

Nothing in this section shall prohibit the State of Delaware from the full exercise of its options under Section IV.B.18 regarding multiple source contracting.

**b. Sub-contracting**

The vendor selected shall be solely responsible for contractual performance. This contract allows subcontracting assignments; however, vendors assume all responsibility for work quality, delivery, installation, maintenance, and any supporting services required by a subcontractor.

Use of subcontractors must be clearly explained in the proposal, and major subcontractors must be identified by name. **The prime vendor shall be wholly responsible for the entire contract performance whether or not subcontractors are used.** Any sub-contractors must be approved by State of Delaware.

**c. Multiple Proposals**

A primary vendor may not participate in more than one proposal in any form. Sub-contracting vendors may participate in multiple joint venture proposals.

**14. Sub-Contracting**

The vendor selected shall be solely responsible for contractual performance. This contract allows subcontracting assignments; however, vendors assume all responsibility for work quality, delivery, installation, maintenance, and any supporting services required by a subcontractor.

Use of subcontractors must be clearly explained in the proposal, and major subcontractors must be identified by name.

**15. Discrepancies and Omissions**

Vendor is fully responsible for the completeness and accuracy of their proposal, and for examining this RFP and all addenda. Failure to do so will be at the sole risk of

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vendor. Should vendor find discrepancies, omissions, unclear or ambiguous intent or meaning, or should any questions arise concerning this RFP, vendor shall notify the State of Delaware's Designated Contact, in writing, of such findings at least ten (10) days before the proposal opening. This will allow issuance of any necessary addenda. It will also help prevent the opening of a defective proposal and exposure of vendor's proposal upon which award could not be made. All unresolved issues should be addressed in the proposal.

Protests based on any omission or error, or on the content of the solicitation, will be disallowed if these faults have not been brought to the attention of the Designated Contact, in writing, at least ten (10) calendar days prior to the time set for opening of the proposals.

**a. RFP Question and Answer Process**

The State of Delaware will allow written requests for clarification of the RFP. All questions shall be received no later than February 26, 2019. All questions will be consolidated into a single document and a single set of responses and posted on the State's website at [www.bids.delaware.gov](http://www.bids.delaware.gov) by the date of March 19, 2019. Vendor names will be removed from questions in the responses released. Questions should be submitted in the following format. Deviations from this format will not be accepted.

Section number

Paragraph number

Page number

Text of passage being questioned

Questions are to be submitted electronically (by email) to the contact person for this RFP, Mawuna Gardesey at [mawuna.gardesey@state.de.us](mailto:mawuna.gardesey@state.de.us).

**16. State's Right to Reject Proposals**

The State of Delaware reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals or any part of any proposal, to waive defects, technicalities or any specifications (whether they be in the State of Delaware's specifications or vendor's response), to sit and act as sole judge of the merit and qualifications of each product offered, or to solicit new proposals on the same project or on a modified project which may include portions of the originally proposed project as the State of Delaware may deem necessary in the best interest of the State of Delaware.

**17. State's Right to Cancel Solicitation**

The State of Delaware reserves the right to cancel this solicitation at any time during the procurement process, for any reason or for no reason. The State of Delaware makes no commitments expressed or implied, that this process will result in a business transaction with any vendor.

This RFP does not constitute an offer by the State of Delaware. Vendor's participation in this process may result in the State of Delaware selecting your organization to engage in further discussions and negotiations toward execution of a

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contract. The commencement of such negotiations does not, however, signify a commitment by the State of Delaware to execute a contract nor to continue negotiations. The State of Delaware may terminate negotiations at any time and for any reason, or for no reason.

**18. State's Right to Award Multiple Source Contracting**

Pursuant to 29 *Del. C.* [§ 6986](#), the State of Delaware may award a contract for a particular professional service to two or more vendors if the agency head makes a determination that such an award is in the best interest of the State of Delaware.

**19. Potential Contract Overlap**

Vendors shall be advised that the State, at its sole discretion, shall retain the right to solicit for goods and/or services as required by its agencies and as it serves the best interest of the State. As needs are identified, there may exist instances where contract deliverables, and/or goods or services to be solicited and subsequently awarded, overlap previous awards. The State reserves the right to reject any or all bids in whole or in part, to make partial awards, to award to multiple vendors during the same period, to award by types, on a zone-by-zone basis or on an item-by-item or lump sum basis item by item, or lump sum total, whichever may be most advantageous to the State of Delaware.

**20. Notification of Withdrawal of Proposal**

Vendor may modify or withdraw its proposal by written request, provided that both proposal and request is received by the State of Delaware prior to the proposal due date. Proposals may be re-submitted in accordance with the proposal due date in order to be considered further.

Proposals become the property of the State of Delaware at the proposal submission deadline. All proposals received are considered firm offers at that time.

**21. Revisions to the RFP**

If it becomes necessary to revise any part of the RFP, an addendum will be posted on the State of Delaware's website at [www.bids.delaware.gov](http://www.bids.delaware.gov). The State of Delaware is not bound by any statement related to this RFP made by any State of Delaware employee, contractor or its agents.

**22. Exceptions to the RFP**

Any exceptions to the RFP, or the State of Delaware's terms and conditions, must be recorded on Attachment 3. Acceptance of exceptions is within the sole discretion of the evaluation committee.

**23. Business References**

Provide at least three (3) business references consisting of current or previous customers of similar scope and value using Attachment 5. Include business name, mailing address, contact name and phone number, number of years doing business with, and type of work performed. Personal references cannot be considered.

**24. Award of Contract**

The final award of a contract is subject to approval by the State of Delaware. The State of Delaware has the sole right to select the successful vendor(s) for award, to reject any proposal as unsatisfactory or non-responsive, to award a contract to other

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than the lowest priced proposal, to award multiple contracts, or not to award a contract, as a result of this RFP.

Notice in writing to a vendor of the acceptance of its proposal by the State of Delaware and the subsequent full execution of a written contract will constitute a contract, and no vendor will acquire any legal or equitable rights or privileges until the occurrence of both such events.

**a. RFP Award Notifications**

After reviews of the evaluation committee report and its recommendation, and once the contract terms and conditions have been finalized, the State of Delaware will award the contract.

The contract shall be awarded to the vendor whose proposal is most advantageous, taking into consideration the evaluation factors set forth in the RFP.

It should be explicitly noted that the State of Delaware is not obligated to award the contract to the vendor who submits the lowest bid or the vendor who receives the highest total point score, rather the contract will be awarded to the vendor whose proposal is the most advantageous to the State of Delaware. The award is subject to the appropriate State of Delaware approvals.

After a final selection is made, the winning vendor will be invited to negotiate a contract with the State of Delaware; remaining vendors will be notified in writing of their selection status.

**25. Cooperatives**

Vendors, who have been awarded similar contracts through a competitive bidding process with a cooperative, are welcome to submit the cooperative pricing for this solicitation.

**C. RFP Evaluation Process**

An evaluation team composed of representatives of the State of Delaware will evaluate proposals on a variety of quantitative criteria. Neither the lowest price nor highest scoring proposal will necessarily be selected.

The State of Delaware reserves full discretion to determine the competence and responsibility, professionally and/or financially, of vendors. Vendors are to provide in a timely manner any and all information that the State of Delaware may deem necessary to make a decision.

**1. Proposal Evaluation Team**

The Proposal Evaluation Team shall be comprised of representatives of the State of Delaware. The Team shall determine which vendors meet the minimum requirements pursuant to selection criteria of the RFP and procedures established in 29 Del. C. §§ [6981 and 6982](#). Professional services for this solicitation are considered under 29 Del. C. §6982(b). The Team may negotiate with one or more vendors during the same period and may, at its discretion, terminate negotiations with any or all vendors. The Team shall make a recommendation regarding the award to the Director of the Division of Public Health, who shall have final authority,

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subject to the provisions of this RFP and 29 *Del. C.* § [6982\(b\)](#), to award a contract to the successful vendor in the best interests of the State of Delaware.

**2. Proposal Selection Criteria**

The Proposal Evaluation Team shall assign up to the maximum number of points for each Evaluation Item to each of the proposing vendor's proposals. All assignments of points shall be at the sole discretion of the Proposal Evaluation Team.

The proposals shall contain the essential information on which the award decision shall be made. The information required to be submitted in response to this RFP has been determined by the State of Delaware to be essential for use by the Team in the bid evaluation and award process. Therefore, all instructions contained in this RFP shall be met in order to qualify as a responsive and responsible contractor and participate in the Proposal Evaluation Team's consideration for award. Proposals which do not meet or comply with the instructions of this RFP may be considered non-conforming and deemed non-responsive and subject to disqualification at the sole discretion of the Team.

The Team reserves the right to:

- Select for contract or for negotiations a proposal other than that with lowest costs.
- Reject any and all proposals or portions of proposals received in response to this RFP or to make no award or issue a new RFP.
- Waive or modify any information, irregularity, or inconsistency in proposals received.
- Request modification to proposals from any or all vendors during the contract review and negotiation.
- Negotiate any aspect of the proposal with any vendor and negotiate with more than one vendor at the same time.
- Select more than one vendor pursuant to 29 *Del. C.* § [6986](#).

**Criteria Weight**

All proposals shall be evaluated using the same criteria and scoring process. The following criteria shall be used by the Evaluation Team to evaluate proposals:

Criteria	Weight
Qualifications of vendor a) Administrative Oversight b) Past experience in successfully operating quality programs of a similar type and with a similar population c) Quality Assurance Program details d) Available Resources	25
Methodology Proposed  a) Strength of relationships in proposed zone (s); b) Support from communities in zone(s) via letters of reference/support; c) Services proposed fit needs as expressed in RFP; d) Proposed activities follow a logical sequence; e) Adequacy of workplan & timeline schedules;	25



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Criteria	Weight
f) Builds on existing work of the Division's planning efforts; g) Necessary infrastructure and plan to collect, maintain, and report quality program data; h) Infrastructure and plan for QI, which describes ongoing/continuous approach, monitoring plan, process and activities to support improvement	
Responses to Scope of Services, Section II.	20
The degree to which the bidder demonstrates the potential ability to recruit, hire, schedule, and train qualified applicants.	15
Evaluation of the proposed costs as they relate to the proposed service delivery.	12
Inclusion of ACA Safe Harbor Additional Fees	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Bidders must circle Yes or No to the following questions and include the answers in their response.</b>	
<b>1) Does the bidder have a Supplier Diversity plan currently in place?</b>	<b>Yes/No</b>
<b>2) Does the bidder have any diverse sub- contractors as outlined in Attachment 8 Tier II Sub-contractors?</b>	<b>Yes/No</b>
<b>3) Does the bidder have a written inclusion policy in place? If yes, attach a clearly identifiable copy of the inclusion plan to your proposal.</b>	<b>Yes/No</b>
<b>Answers to these 3 questions are mandatory and do not affect the weighted evaluation of this proposal. However, an affirmative answer to question 2 may directly impact quarterly sub-contracting reporting as illustrated in Attachment 8 in those instances where an awarded contract includes subcontracting activity.</b>	

Vendors are encouraged to review the evaluation criteria and to provide a response that addresses each of the scored items. Evaluators will not be able to make assumptions about a vendor's capabilities so the responding vendor should be detailed in their proposal responses.

### 3. Proposal Clarification

The Evaluation Team may contact any vendor in order to clarify uncertainties or eliminate confusion concerning the contents of a proposal. Proposals may not be modified as a result of any such clarification request.

### 4. References

The Evaluation Team may contact any customer of the vendor, whether or not included in the vendor's reference list, and use such information in the evaluation process. Additionally, the State of Delaware may choose to visit existing installations of comparable systems, which may or may not include vendor personnel. If the vendor is involved in such site visits, the State of Delaware will pay travel costs only for State of Delaware personnel for these visits.

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**5. Oral Presentations**

After initial scoring and a determination that vendor(s) are qualified to perform the required services, selected vendors may be invited to make oral presentations to the Evaluation Team. All vendor(s) selected will be given an opportunity to present to the Evaluation Team.

If the vendor(s) are invited to make oral presentations, the evaluation team members will base their final scores on both the written proposal and the oral presentation.

The selected vendors will have their presentations scored or ranked based on their ability to successfully meet the needs of the contract requirements, successfully demonstrate their product and/or service, and respond to questions about the solution capabilities.

The vendor representative(s) attending the oral presentation shall be technically qualified to respond to questions related to the proposed system and its components. All of the vendor's costs associated with participation in oral discussions and system demonstrations conducted for the State of Delaware are the vendor's responsibility.

**V. Contract Terms and Conditions**

**1. Contract Use by Other Agencies**

**REF: Title 29, Chapter [6904\(e\)](#) Delaware Code.** If no state contract exists for a certain good or service, covered agencies may procure that certain good or service under another agency's contract so long as the arrangement is agreeable to all parties. Agencies, other than covered agencies, may also procure such goods or services under another agency's contract when the arrangement is agreeable to all parties.

**2. Cooperative Use of Award**

As a publicly competed contract awarded in compliance with 29 DE Code Chapter 69, this contract is available for use by other states and/or governmental entities through a participating addendum. Interested parties should contact the State Contract Procurement Officer identified in the contract for instruction. Final approval for permitting participation in this contract resides with the Director of Government Support Services and in no way places any obligation upon the awarded vendor(s).

**3. As a Service Subscription**

As a Service subscription, license costs shall be incurred at the individual license level only as the individual license is utilized within a fully functioning solution. Subscription costs will not be applicable during periods of implementation and solution development prior to the State's full acceptance of a working solution. Additional subscription license requests above actual utilization may not exceed 5% of the total and are subject to Delaware budget and technical review.

**4. General Information**

- a. The term of the contract between the successful bidder and the State shall be for One (1) years with four (4) optional extensions for a period of one (1) year for each extension.

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- b. The selected vendor will be required to enter into a written agreement with the State of Delaware. The State of Delaware reserves the right to incorporate standard State contractual provisions into any contract negotiated as a result of a proposal submitted in response to this RFP. Any proposed modifications to the terms and conditions of the standard contract are subject to review and approval by the State of Delaware. Vendors will be required to sign the contract for all services, and may be required to sign additional agreements.
- c. The selected vendor or vendors will be expected to enter negotiations with the State of Delaware, which will result in a formal contract between parties. Procurement will be in accordance with subsequent contracted agreement. This RFP and the selected vendor's response to this RFP will be incorporated as part of any formal contract.
- d. The State of Delaware's standard contract will most likely be supplemented with the vendor's software license, support/maintenance, source code escrow agreements, and any other applicable agreements. The terms and conditions of these agreements will be negotiated with the finalist during actual contract negotiations.
- e. The successful vendor shall promptly execute a contract incorporating the terms of this RFP within twenty (20) days after award of the contract. No vendor is to begin any service prior to receipt of a State of Delaware purchase order signed by two authorized representatives of the agency requesting service, properly processed through the State of Delaware Accounting Office and the Department of Finance. The purchase order shall serve as the authorization to proceed in accordance with the bid specifications and the special instructions, once it is received by the successful vendor.
- f. If the vendor to whom the award is made fails to enter into the agreement as herein provided, the award will be annulled, and an award may be made to another vendor. Such vendor shall fulfill every stipulation embraced herein as if they were the party to whom the first award was made.
- g. The State reserves the right to extend this contract on a month-to-month basis for a period of up to three months after the term of the full contract has been completed.

**5. Collusion or Fraud**

Any evidence of agreement or collusion among vendor(s) and prospective vendor(s) acting to illegally restrain freedom from competition by agreement to offer a fixed price, or otherwise, will render the offers of such vendor(s) void.

By responding, the vendor shall be deemed to have represented and warranted that its proposal is not made in connection with any competing vendor submitting a separate response to this RFP, and is in all respects fair and without collusion or fraud; that the vendor did not participate in the RFP development process and had no knowledge of the specific contents of the RFP prior to its issuance; and that no employee or official of the State of Delaware participated directly or indirectly in the vendor's proposal preparation.

Advance knowledge of information which gives any particular vendor advantages over any other interested vendor(s), in advance of the opening of proposals, whether in response to advertising or an employee or representative thereof, will potentially void that particular proposal.

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**6. Lobbying and Gratuities**

Lobbying or providing gratuities shall be strictly prohibited. Vendors found to be lobbying, providing gratuities to, or in any way attempting to influence a State of Delaware employee or agent of the State of Delaware concerning this RFP or the award of a contract resulting from this RFP shall have their proposal immediately rejected and shall be barred from further participation in this RFP.

The selected vendor will warrant that no person or selling agency has been employed or retained to solicit or secure a contract resulting from this RFP upon agreement or understanding for a commission, or a percentage, brokerage or contingent fee. For breach or violation of this warranty, the State of Delaware shall have the right to annul any contract resulting from this RFP without liability or at its discretion deduct from the contract price or otherwise recover the full amount of such commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee.

All contact with State of Delaware employees, contractors or agents of the State of Delaware concerning this RFP shall be conducted in strict accordance with the manner, forum and conditions set forth in this RFP.

**7. Solicitation of State Employees**

Until contract award, vendors shall not, directly or indirectly, solicit any employee of the State of Delaware to leave the State of Delaware's employ in order to accept employment with the vendor, its affiliates, actual or prospective contractors, or any person acting in concert with vendor, without prior written approval of the State of Delaware's contracting officer. Solicitation of State of Delaware employees by a vendor may result in rejection of the vendor's proposal.

This paragraph does not prevent the employment by a vendor of a State of Delaware employee who has initiated contact with the vendor. However, State of Delaware employees may be legally prohibited from accepting employment with the contractor or subcontractor under certain circumstances. Vendors may not knowingly employ a person who cannot legally accept employment under state or federal law. If a vendor discovers that they have done so, they must terminate that employment immediately.

**8. General Contract Terms**

**a. Independent Contractors**

The parties to the contract shall be independent contractors to one another, and nothing herein shall be deemed to cause this agreement to create an agency, partnership, joint venture or employment relationship between parties. Each party shall be responsible for compliance with all applicable workers compensation, unemployment, disability insurance, social security withholding and all other similar matters. Neither party shall be liable for any debts, accounts, obligations or other liability whatsoever of the other party or any other obligation of the other party to pay on the behalf of its employees or to withhold from any compensation paid to such employees any social benefits, workers compensation insurance premiums or any income or other similar taxes.

It may be at the State of Delaware's discretion as to the location of work for the contractual support personnel during the project period. The State of Delaware may provide working space and sufficient supplies and material to augment the Contractor's services.

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**b. Temporary Personnel are Not State Employees Unless and Until They are Hired**

Vendor agrees that any individual or group of temporary staff person(s) provided to the State of Delaware pursuant to this Solicitation shall remain the employee(s) of Vendor for all purposes including any required compliance with the Affordable Care Act by the Vendor. Vendor agrees that it shall not allege, argue, or take any position that individual temporary staff person(s) provided to the State pursuant to this Solicitation must be provided any benefits, including any healthcare benefits by the State of Delaware and Vendor agrees to assume the total and complete responsibility for the provision of any healthcare benefits required by the Affordable Care Act to aforesaid individual temporary staff person(s). In the event that the Internal Revenue Service, or any other third party governmental entity determines that the State of Delaware is a dual employer or the sole employer of any individual temporary staff person(s) provided to the State of Delaware pursuant to this Solicitation, Vendor agrees to hold harmless, indemnify, and defend the State to the maximum extent of any liability to the State arising out of such determinations.

Notwithstanding the content of the preceding paragraph, should the State of Delaware subsequently directly hire any individual temporary staff employee(s) provided pursuant to this Solicitation, the aforementioned obligations to hold harmless, indemnify, and defend the State of Delaware shall cease and terminate for the period following the date of hire. Nothing herein shall be deemed to terminate the Vendor's obligation to hold harmless, indemnify, and defend the State of Delaware for any liability that arises out of compliance with the ACA prior to the date of hire by the State of Delaware. Vendor will waive any separation fee provided an employee works for both the vendor and hiring agency, continuously, for a three (3) month period and is provided thirty (30) days written notice of intent to hire from the agency. Notice can be issued at second month if it is the State's intention to hire.

**c. ACA Safe Harbor**

The State and its utilizing agencies are not the employer of temporary or contracted staff. However, the State is concerned that it could be determined to be a Common-law Employer as defined by the Affordable Care Act ("ACA"). Therefore, the State seeks to utilize the "Common-law Employer Safe Harbor Exception" under the ACA to transfer health benefit insurance requirements to the staffing company. The Common-law Employer Safe Harbor Exception can be attained when the State and/or its agencies are charged and pay for an "Additional Fee" with respect to the employees electing to obtain health coverage from the Vendor.

The Common-law Employer Safe Harbor Exception under the ACA requires that an Additional Fee must be charged to those employees who obtain health coverage from the Vendor, but does not state the required amount of the fee. The State requires that all Vendors shall identify the Additional Fee to obtain health coverage from the Vendor and delineate the Additional Fee from all other charges and fees. The Vendor shall identify both the Additional Fee to be charged and the basis of how the fee is applied (i.e. per employee, per invoice, etc.). The State will consider the Additional Fee and prior to award reserves the

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right to negotiate any fees offered by the Vendor. Further, the Additional Fee shall be separately scored in the proposal to ensure that neither prices charged nor the Additional Fee charged will have a detrimental effect when selecting vendor(s) for award.

**d. Licenses and Permits**

In performance of the contract, the vendor will be required to comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, ordinances, codes, and regulations. The cost of permits and other relevant costs required in the performance of the contract shall be borne by the successful vendor. The vendor shall be properly licensed and authorized to transact business in the State of Delaware as provided in 30 *Del. C.* § [2502](#).

Prior to receiving an award, the successful vendor shall either furnish the State of Delaware with proof of State of Delaware Business Licensure or initiate the process of application where required. An application may be requested in writing to: Division of Revenue, Carvel State Building, P.O. Box 8750, 820 N. French Street, Wilmington, DE 19899 or by telephone to one of the following numbers: (302) 577-8200—Public Service, (302) 577-8205—Licensing Department.

Information regarding the award of the contract will be given to the Division of Revenue. Failure to comply with the State of Delaware licensing requirements may subject vendor to applicable fines and/or interest penalties.

**e. Notice**

Any notice to the State of Delaware required under the contract shall be sent by registered mail to:

Mawuna Gardesey  
Public Health Administrator  
E-mail Address: [mawuna.gardesey@state.de.us](mailto:mawuna.gardesey@state.de.us)  
Phone# (302)744-4953  
Fax# (302)739-6653

**f. Indemnification**

**1. General Indemnification**

By submitting a proposal, the proposing vendor agrees that in the event it is awarded a contract, it will indemnify and otherwise hold harmless the State of Delaware, its agents and employees from any and all liability, suits, actions, or claims, together with all costs, expenses for attorney's fees, arising out of the vendor's, its agents and employees' performance work or services in connection with the contract.

**2. Proprietary Rights Indemnification**

Vendor shall warrant that all elements of its solution, including all equipment, software, documentation, services and deliverables, do not and will not infringe upon or violate any patent, copyright, trade secret or other proprietary rights of any third party. In the event of any claim, suit or action by any third party against the State of Delaware, the State of Delaware shall promptly notify the vendor in writing and vendor shall defend such claim, suit or action

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at vendor's expense, and vendor shall indemnify the State of Delaware against any loss, cost, damage, expense or liability arising out of such claim, suit or action (including, without limitation, litigation costs, lost employee time, and counsel fees) whether or not such claim, suit or action is successful.

If any equipment, software, services (including methods) products or other intellectual property used or furnished by the vendor (collectively "Products") is or in vendor's reasonable judgment is likely to be, held to constitute an infringing product, vendor shall at its expense and option either:

- a. Procure the right for the State of Delaware to continue using the Product(s);
- b. Replace the product with a non-infringing equivalent that satisfies all the requirements of the contract; or
- c. Modify the Product(s) to make it or them non-infringing, provided that the modification does not materially alter the functionality or efficacy of the product or cause the Product(s) or any part of the work to fail to conform to the requirements of the Contract, or only alters the Product(s) to a degree that the State of Delaware agrees to and accepts in writing.

**g. Insurance**

1. Vendor recognizes that it is operating as an independent contractor and that it is liable for any and all losses, penalties, damages, expenses, attorney's fees, judgments, and/or settlements incurred by reason of injury to or death of any and all persons, or injury to any and all property, of any nature, arising out of the vendor's negligent performance under this contract, and particularly without limiting the foregoing, caused by, resulting from, or arising out of any act of omission on the part of the vendor in their negligent performance under this contract.
2. The vendor shall maintain such insurance as will protect against claims under Worker's Compensation Act and from any other claims for damages for personal injury, including death, which may arise from operations under this contract. The vendor is an independent contractor and is not an employee of the State of Delaware.
3. During the term of this contract, the vendor shall, at its own expense, also carry insurance minimum limits as follows:
  - a. Vendor shall in all instances maintain the following insurance during the term of this Agreement.
    - i. Worker's Compensation and Employer's Liability Insurance in accordance with applicable law.
    - ii. Commercial General Liability  
\$1,000,000.00 per occurrence/\$3,000,000 per aggregate.
  - b. The successful vendor must carry at least one of the following depending on the scope of work being delivered.

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- i. Medical/Professional Liability  
\$1,000,000.00 per occurrence/\$3,000,000 per aggregate
  - ii. Miscellaneous Errors and Omissions  
\$1,000,000.00 per occurrence/\$3,000,000 per aggregate
  - iii. Product Liability  
\$1,000,000 per occurrence/\$3,000,000 aggregate
- c. If the contractual service requires the transportation of departmental clients or staff, the vendor shall, in addition to the above coverage's, secure at its own expense the following coverage.
  - i. Automotive Liability Insurance (Bodily Injury) covering all automotive units transporting departmental clients or staff used in the work with limits of not less than \$100,000 each person and \$300,000 each accident.
  - ii. Automotive Property Damage (to others) - \$25,000
- 4. The vendor shall provide a Certificate of Insurance (COI) as proof that the vendor has the required insurance. The COI shall be provided to agency contact prior to any work being completed by the awarded vendor(s).
- 5. The State of Delaware shall not be named as an additional insured.
- 6. Should any of the above described policies be cancelled before expiration date thereof, notice will be delivered in accordance with the policy provisions.
- h. Performance Requirements**

The selected Vendor will warrant that it possesses, or has arranged through subcontractors, all capital and other equipment, labor, materials, and licenses necessary to carry out and complete the work hereunder in compliance with any and all Federal and State laws, and County and local ordinances, regulations and codes.
- i. BID BOND**

**There is no Bid Bond Requirement.**
- j. PERFORMANCE BOND**

**There is no Performance Bond requirement.**
- k. Vendor Emergency Response Point of Contact**

The awarded vendor(s) shall provide the name(s), telephone, or cell phone number(s) of those individuals who can be contacted twenty four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week where there is a critical need for commodities or services when the Governor of the State of Delaware declares a state of emergency under the Delaware Emergency Operations Plan or in the event of a local emergency or disaster where a state governmental entity requires the services of the vendor. Failure to provide this information could render the proposal as non-responsive.



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In the event of a serious emergency, pandemic or disaster outside the control of the State, the State may negotiate, as may be authorized by law, emergency performance from the Contractor to address the immediate needs of the State, even if not contemplated under the original Contract or procurement. Payments are subject to appropriation and other payment terms.

**I. Warranty**

The Vendor will provide a warranty that the deliverables provided pursuant to the contract will function as designed for a period of no less than one (1) year from the date of system acceptance. The warranty shall require the Vendor correct, at its own expense, the setup, configuration, customizations or modifications so that it functions according to the State's requirements.

**m. Costs and Payment Schedules**

All contract costs must be as detailed specifically in the Vendor's cost proposal. No charges other than as specified in the proposal shall be allowed without written consent of the State of Delaware. The proposal costs shall include full compensation for all taxes that the selected vendor is required to pay.

The State of Delaware will require a payment schedule based on defined and measurable milestones. Payments for services will not be made in advance of work performed. The State of Delaware may require holdback of contract monies until acceptable performance is demonstrated (as much as 25%).

**n. Price Adjustment**

The Vendor is not prohibited from offering a price reduction on its services or materiel offered under the contract. The State is not prohibited from requesting a price reduction on those services or materiel during the initial term or any subsequent options that the State may agree to exercise.

If agreement is reached to extend this contract beyond the initial one year period, The Division of Public Health shall have the option of offering a determined price adjustment that shall not exceed the current Philadelphia All Urban Consumers Price Index (CPI-U), U.S. City Average. If the CPI-U is used, any increase/decrease shall reflect the change during the previous published twelve (12) month period at the time of renegotiation.

**o. Liquidated Damages**

The State of Delaware may include in the final contract liquidated damages provisions for non-performance.

**p. Dispute Resolution**

At the option of, and in the manner prescribed by Delaware Health and Social Services (DHSS), the parties shall attempt in good faith to resolve any dispute arising out of or relating to this Agreement promptly by negotiation between executives who have authority to settle the controversy and who are at a higher level of management than the persons with direct responsibility for administration of this Agreement. All offers, promises, conduct and statements, whether oral or written, made in the course of the negotiation by any of the parties, their agents, employees, experts and attorneys are confidential, privileged and inadmissible

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for any purpose, including impeachment, in arbitration or other proceeding involving the parties, provided evidence that is otherwise admissible or discoverable shall not be rendered inadmissible.

If the matter is not resolved by negotiation, as outlined above, or, alternatively, DHSS elects to proceed directly to mediation, then the matter will proceed to mediation as set forth below. Any disputes, claims or controversies arising out of or relating to this Agreement shall be submitted to mediation by a mediator selected by DHSS, and if the matter is not resolved through mediation, then it shall be submitted, in the sole discretion of DHSS, to the Delaware Health and Social Services Director, for final and binding arbitration. DHSS reserves the right to proceed directly to arbitration or litigation without negotiation or mediation. Any such proceedings held pursuant to this provision shall be governed by Delaware law and venue shall be in Delaware. The parties shall maintain the confidential nature of the arbitration proceeding and the Award, including the Hearing, except as may be necessary to prepare for or conduct the arbitration hearing on the merits. Each party shall bear its own costs of mediation, arbitration or litigation, including attorneys' fees.

**q. Termination of Contract**

The contract resulting from this RFP may be terminated as follows by the Division of Public Health.

**1. Termination for Cause**

If, for any reasons, or through any cause, the Vendor fails to fulfill in timely and proper manner its obligations under this Contract, or if the Vendor violates any of the covenants, agreements, or stipulations of this Contract, the State shall thereupon have the right to terminate this contract by giving written notice to the Vendor of such termination and specifying the effective date thereof, at least twenty (20) days before the effective date of such termination. In that event, all finished or unfinished documents, data, studies, surveys, drawings, maps, models, photographs, and reports or other material prepared by the Vendor under this Contract shall, at the option of the State, become its property, and the Vendor shall be entitled to receive just and equitable compensation for any satisfactory work completed on such documents and other materials which is usable to the State.

On receipt of the contract cancellation notice from the State, the Vendor shall have no less than five (5) days to provide a written response and may identify a method(s) to resolve the violation(s). A vendor response shall not effect or prevent the contract cancellation unless the State provides a written acceptance of the vendor response. If the State does accept the Vendor's method and/or action plan to correct the identified deficiencies, the State will define the time by which the Vendor must fulfill its corrective obligations. Final retraction of the State's termination for cause will only occur after the Vendor successfully rectifies the original violation(s). At its discretion, the State may reject in writing the Vendor's proposed action plan and proceed with the original contract cancellation timeline.

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**2. Termination for Convenience**

The State may terminate this Contract at any time by giving written notice of such termination and specifying the effective date thereof, at least twenty (20) days before the effective date of such termination. In that event, all finished or unfinished documents, data, studies, surveys, drawings, models, photographs, reports, supplies, and other materials shall, at the option of the State, become its property and the Vendor shall be entitled to receive compensation for any satisfactory work completed on such documents and other materials, and which is usable to the State.

**3. Termination for Non-Appropriations**

In the event the General Assembly fails to appropriate the specific funds necessary to enter into or continue the contractual agreement, in whole or part, the agreement shall be terminated as to any obligation of the State requiring the expenditure of money for which no specific appropriation is available at the end of the last fiscal year for which no appropriation is available or upon the exhaustion of funds. This is not a termination for convenience and will not be converted to such.

**r. Non-discrimination**

In performing the services subject to this RFP the vendor, as set forth in Title 19 Delaware Code Chapter 7 section [711](#), will agree that it will not discriminate against any employee or applicant with respect to compensation, terms, conditions or privileges of employment because of such individual's race, marital status, genetic information, color, age, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin. The successful vendor shall comply with all federal and state laws, regulations and policies pertaining to the prevention of discriminatory employment practice. Failure to perform under this provision constitutes a material breach of contract.

**s. Covenant against Contingent Fees**

The successful vendor will warrant that no person or selling agency has been employed or retained to solicit or secure this contract upon an agreement of understanding for a commission or percentage, brokerage or contingent fee excepting bona-fide employees, bona-fide established commercial or selling agencies maintained by the Vendor for the purpose of securing business. For breach or violation of this warranty, the State of Delaware shall have the right to annul the contract without liability or at its discretion to deduct from the contract price or otherwise recover the full amount of such commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee.

**t. Vendor Activity**

No activity is to be executed in an off shore facility, either by a subcontracted firm or a foreign office or division of the vendor. The vendor must attest to the fact that no activity will take place outside of the United States in its transmittal letter. Failure to adhere to this requirement is cause for elimination from future consideration.

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**u. Vendor Responsibility**

The State will enter into a contract with the successful Vendor(s). The successful Vendor(s) shall be responsible for all products and services as required by this RFP whether or not the Vendor or its subcontractor provided final fulfillment of the order. Subcontractors, if any, shall be clearly identified in the Vendor's proposal by completing Attachment 6, and are subject to the approval and acceptance of Division of Public Health.

**v. Personnel, Equipment and Services**

1. The Vendor represents that it has, or will secure at its own expense, all personnel required to perform the services required under this contract.
2. All of the equipment and services required hereunder shall be provided by or performed by the Vendor or under its direct supervision, and all personnel, including subcontractors, engaged in the work shall be fully qualified and shall be authorized under State and local law to perform such services.
3. None of the equipment and/or services covered by this contract shall be subcontracted without the prior written approval of the State. Only those subcontractors identified in Attachment 6 are considered approved upon award. Changes to those subcontractor(s) listed in Attachment 6 must be approved in writing by the State.

**w. Fair Background Check Practices**

Pursuant to 29 Del. C. [§6909B](#), the State does not consider the criminal record, criminal history, credit history or credit score of an applicant for state employment during the initial application process unless otherwise required by state and/or federal law. Vendors doing business with the State are encouraged to adopt fair background check practices. Vendors can refer to 19 Del. C. [§711\(g\)](#) for applicable established provisions.

**x. Vendor Background Check Requirements**

Vendor(s) selected for an award that access state property or come in contact with vulnerable populations, including children and youth, shall be required to complete background checks on employees serving the State's on premises contracts. Unless otherwise directed, at a minimum, this shall include a check of the following registry:

- Delaware Sex Offender Central Registry at:  
<https://sexoffender.dsp.delaware.gov/>

Individuals that are listed in the registry shall be prevented from direct contact in the service of an awarded state contract, but may provide support or off-site premises service for contract vendors. Should an individual be identified and the Vendor(s) believes their employee's service does not represent a conflict with this requirement, may apply for a waiver to the primary agency listed in the solicitation. The Agency's decision to allow or deny access to any individual identified on a registry database is final and at the Agency's sole discretion.

By Agency request, the Vendor(s) shall provide a list of all employees serving an awarded contract, and certify adherence to the background check requirement. Individual(s) found in the central registry in violation of the terms stated, shall be immediately prevented from a return to state property in service of a contract.

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award. A violation of this condition represents a violation of the contract terms and conditions, and may subject the Vendor to penalty, including contract cancellation for cause.

Individual contracts may require additional background checks and/or security clearance(s), depending on the nature of the services to be provided or locations accessed, but any other requirements shall be stated in the contract scope of work or be a matter of common law. The Vendor(s) shall be responsible for the background check requirements of any authorized Subcontractor providing service to the Agency's contract.

**y. Work Product**

All materials and products developed under the executed contract by the vendor are the sole and exclusive property of the State. The vendor will seek written permission to use any product created under the contract.

**z. Contract Documents**

The RFP, the purchase order, the executed contract and any supplemental documents between the State of Delaware and the successful vendor shall constitute the contract between the State of Delaware and the vendor. In the event there is any discrepancy between any of these contract documents, the following order of documents governs so that the former prevails over the latter: contract, State of Delaware's RFP, Vendor's response to the RFP and purchase order. No other documents shall be considered. These documents will constitute the entire agreement between the State of Delaware and the vendor.

**aa. Applicable Law**

The laws of the State of Delaware shall apply, except where Federal Law has precedence. The successful vendor consents to jurisdiction and venue in the State of Delaware.

In submitting a proposal, Vendors certify that they comply with all federal, state and local laws applicable to its activities and obligations including:

1. the laws of the State of Delaware;
2. the applicable portion of the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964;
3. the Equal Employment Opportunity Act and the regulations issued there under by the federal government;
4. a condition that the proposal submitted was independently arrived at, without collusion, under penalty of perjury; and
5. that programs, services, and activities provided to the general public under resulting contract conform with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the regulations issued there under by the federal government.

If any vendor fails to comply with (1) through (5) of this paragraph, the State of Delaware reserves the right to disregard the proposal, terminate the contract, or consider the vendor in default.

The selected vendor shall keep itself fully informed of and shall observe and comply with all applicable existing Federal and State laws, and County and local

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ordinances, regulations and codes, and those laws, ordinances, regulations, and codes adopted during its performance of the work.

**bb. Severability**

If any term or provision of this Agreement is found by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, illegal or otherwise unenforceable, the same shall not affect the other terms or provisions hereof or the whole of this Agreement, but such term or provision shall be deemed modified to the extent necessary in the court's opinion to render such term or provision enforceable, and the rights and obligations of the parties shall be construed and enforced accordingly, preserving to the fullest permissible extent the intent and agreements of the parties herein set forth.

**cc. Assignment Of Antitrust Claims**

As consideration for the award and execution of this contract by the State, the Vendor hereby grants, conveys, sells, assigns, and transfers to the State of Delaware all of its right, title and interest in and to all known or unknown causes of action it presently has or may now or hereafter acquire under the antitrust laws of the United States and the State of Delaware, regarding the specific goods or services purchased or acquired for the State pursuant to this contract. Upon either the State's or the Vendor notice of the filing of or reasonable likelihood of filing of an action under the antitrust laws of the United States or the State of Delaware, the State and Vendor shall meet and confer about coordination of representation in such action.

**dd. Scope of Agreement**

If the scope of any provision of the contract is determined to be too broad in any respect whatsoever to permit enforcement to its full extent, then such provision shall be enforced to the maximum extent permitted by law, and the parties hereto consent and agree that such scope may be judicially modified accordingly and that the whole of such provisions of the contract shall not thereby fail, but the scope of such provisions shall be curtailed only to the extent necessary to conform to the law.

**ee. Affirmation**

The Vendor must affirm that within the past five (5) years the firm or any officer, controlling stockholder, partner, principal, or other person substantially involved in the contracting activities of the business is not currently suspended or debarred and is not a successor, subsidiary, or affiliate of a suspended or debarred business.

**ff. Audit Access to Records**

The Vendor shall maintain books, records, documents, and other evidence pertaining to this Contract to the extent and in such detail as shall adequately reflect performance hereunder. The Vendor agrees to preserve and make available to the State, upon request, such records for a period of five (5) years from the date services were rendered by the Vendor. Records involving matters in litigation shall be retained for one (1) year following the termination of such litigation. The Vendor agrees to make such records available for inspection, audit, or reproduction to any official State representative in the performance of their duties under the Contract. Upon notice given to the Vendor, representatives

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of the State or other duly authorized State or Federal agency may inspect, monitor, and/or evaluate the cost and billing records or other material relative to this Contract. The cost of any Contract audit disallowances resulting from the examination of the Vendor's financial records will be borne by the Vendor. Reimbursement to the State for disallowances shall be drawn from the Vendor's own resources and not charged to Contract cost or cost pools indirectly charging Contract costs.

**gg. Other General Conditions**

1. **Current Version** – “Packaged” application and system software shall be the most current version generally available as of the date of the physical installation of the software.
2. **Current Manufacture** – Equipment specified and/or furnished under this specification shall be standard products of manufacturers regularly engaged in the production of such equipment and shall be the manufacturer's latest design. All material and equipment offered shall be new and unused.
3. **Volumes and Quantities** – Activity volume estimates and other quantities have been reviewed for accuracy; however, they may be subject to change prior or subsequent to award of the contract.
4. **Prior Use** – The State of Delaware reserves the right to use equipment and material furnished under this proposal prior to final acceptance. Such use shall not constitute acceptance of the work or any part thereof by the State of Delaware.
5. **Status Reporting** – The selected vendor will be required to lead and/or participate in status meetings and submit status reports covering such items as progress of work being performed, milestones attained, resources expended, problems encountered and corrective action taken, until final system acceptance.
6. **Regulations** – All equipment, software and services must meet all applicable local, State and Federal regulations in effect on the date of the contract.
7. **Assignment** – Any resulting contract shall not be assigned except by express prior written consent from the Agency.
8. **Changes** – No alterations in any terms, conditions, delivery, price, quality, or specifications of items ordered will be effective without the written consent of the State of Delaware.
9. **Payment** – The State reserves the right to pay by Automated Clearing House (ACH), Purchase Card (P-Card), or check. The agencies will authorize and process for payment of each invoice within thirty (30) days after the date of receipt of a correct invoice. Vendors are invited to offer in their proposal value added discounts (i.e. speed to pay discounts for specific payment terms). Cash or separate discounts should be computed and incorporated as invoiced.
10. **Purchase Orders** – Agencies that are part of the First State Financial (FSF) system are required to identify the Request for Proposals number HSS 19 018 on all Purchase Orders (P.O.) and shall complete the same when entering P.O. information in the state's financial reporting system.
11. **Purchase Card** – The State of Delaware intends to maximize the use of the P-Card for payment for goods and services provided under contract. Vendors shall not charge additional fees for acceptance of this payment

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method and shall incorporate any costs into their proposals. Additionally there shall be no minimum or maximum limits on any P-Card transaction under the contract.

- 12. Additional Terms and Conditions** – The State of Delaware reserves the right to add terms and conditions during the contract negotiations.

**VI. RFP Miscellaneous Information**

**1. No Press Releases or Public Disclosure**

The State of Delaware reserves the right to pre-approve any news or broadcast advertising releases concerning this solicitation, the resulting contract, the work performed, or any reference to the State of Delaware with regard to any project or contract performance. Any such news or advertising releases pertaining to this solicitation or resulting contract shall require the prior express written permission of the State of Delaware.

The State will not prohibit or otherwise prevent the awarded vendor(s) from direct marketing to the State of Delaware agencies, departments, municipalities, and/or any other political subdivisions, however, the Vendor shall not use the State's seal or imply preference for the solution or goods provided.

**2. Definitions of Requirements**

To prevent any confusion about identifying requirements in this RFP, the following definition is offered: The words *shall*, *will* and/or *must* are used to designate a mandatory requirement. Vendors must respond to all mandatory requirements presented in the RFP. Failure to respond to a mandatory requirement may cause the disqualification of your proposal.

**3. Production Environment Requirements**

The State of Delaware requires that all hardware, system software products, and application software products included in proposals be currently in use in a production environment by a least three other customers, have been in use for at least six months, and have been generally available from the manufacturers for a period of six months. Unreleased or beta test hardware, system software, or application software will not be acceptable.

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**VII. Attachments**

The following attachments and appendixes shall be considered part of the solicitation:

- Attachment 1 – No Proposal Reply Form
- Attachment 2 – Non-Collusion Statement
- Attachment 3 – Exceptions
- Attachment 4 – Confidentiality and Proprietary Information
- Attachment 5 – Business References
- Attachment 6 – Subcontractor Information Form
- Attachment 7 – Monthly Usage Report
- Attachment 8 – Subcontracting (2<sup>nd</sup> Tier Spend) Report
- Attachment 9 – Office of Supplier Diversity Application
- Attachment 10 – Bidder's Signature Form
- Attachment 11 – Statements of Compliance
- Attachment 12 – Certification Sheet
- Appendix A – Minimum Response Requirements
- Appendix B – Scope of Work / Technical Requirements
- Appendix C – Sample Contract Boilerplate
- Appendix D – Policies and Programs to Reduce Exposures of Disadvantaged People to Health Damaging Factors
- Appendix E - Infant Mortality Collaborative Improvement and Innovation Network Social Determinants of Health Learning Network (September 2015)
- Appendix F – High Risk Zones Map

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### **IMPORTANT – PLEASE NOTE**

- **Attachments 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, and 12 must be included in your proposal**
- Attachment 6 must be included in your proposal if subcontractors will be involved
- Attachments 7 and 8 represent required reporting on the part of awarded vendors. Those bidders receiving an award will be provided with active spreadsheets for reporting.

#### **REQUIRED REPORTING**

One of the primary goals in administering this contract is to keep accurate records regarding its actual value/usage. This information is essential in order to update the contents of the contract and to establish proper bonding levels if they are required. The integrity of future contracts revolves around our ability to convey accurate and realistic information to all interested parties.

A complete and accurate Usage Report (Attachment 7) shall be furnished in an Excel format and submitted electronically, no later than the 15th (or next business day after the 15th day) of each month, detailing the purchasing of all items and/or services on this contract. The reports shall be completed in Excel format, using the template provided, and submitted as an attachment to Mawuna Gardesey at [mawuna.gardesey@state.de.us](mailto:mawuna.gardesey@state.de.us). Submitted reports shall cover the full month (Report due by January 15<sup>th</sup> will cover the period of December 1 – 31.), contain accurate descriptions of the products, goods or services procured, purchasing agency information, quantities procured and prices paid. Reports are required monthly, including those with “no spend”. Any exception to this mandatory requirement or failure to submit complete reports, or in the format required, may result in corrective action, up to and including the possible cancellation of the award. Failure to provide the report with the minimum required information may also negate any contract extension clauses. Additionally, Vendors who are determined to be in default of this mandatory report requirement may have such conduct considered against them, in assessment of responsibility, in the evaluation of future proposals.

In accordance with Executive Order 44, the State of Delaware is committed to supporting its diverse business industry and population. The successful Vendor will be required to accurately report on the participation by Diversity Suppliers which includes: minority (MBE), woman (WBE), veteran owned business (VOBE), or service disabled veteran owned business (SDVOBE) under this awarded contract. The reported data elements shall include but not be limited to; name of state contract/project, the name of the Diversity Supplier, Diversity Supplier contact information (phone, email), type of product or service provided by the Diversity Supplier and any minority, women, veteran, or service disabled veteran certifications for the subcontractor (State OSD certification, Minority Supplier Development Council, Women’s Business Enterprise Council, VetBiz.gov). The format used for Subcontracting 2<sup>nd</sup> Tier report is shown as in Attachment 8.

Accurate 2nd tier reports shall be submitted to the contracting Agency’s Office of Supplier Diversity at [vendorusage@state.de.us](mailto:vendorusage@state.de.us) on the 15<sup>th</sup> (or next business day) of the month following each quarterly period. For consistency, quarters shall be considered to end the last day of March, June, September and December of each calendar year. Contract spend during the covered periods shall result in a report even if the contract has expired by the report due date.

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**Attachment 1**

**NO PROPOSAL REPLY FORM**

Request for Proposal No. HSS 19 018

Request for Proposal Title: Healthy Women Healthy Baby Zones

To assist us in obtaining good competition on our Request for Proposals, we ask that each firm that has received a proposal, but does not wish to bid, state their reason(s) below and return in a clearly marked envelope displaying the contract number. This information will not preclude receipt of future invitations unless you request removal from the Vendor's List by so indicating below, or do not return this form or bona fide proposal.

Unfortunately, we must offer a "No Proposal" at this time because:

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. We do not wish to participate in the proposal process.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. We do not wish to bid under the terms and conditions of the Request for Proposal document. Our objections are:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. We do not feel we can be competitive.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. We cannot submit a Proposal because of the marketing or franchising policies of the manufacturing company.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. We do not wish to sell to the State. Our objections are:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. We do not sell the items/services on which Proposals are requested.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
FIRM NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_ We wish to remain on the Vendor's List **for these goods or services.**

\_\_\_\_\_ We wish to be deleted from the Vendor's List **for these goods or services.**

**PLEASE FORWARD NO PROPOSAL REPLY FORM TO THE CONTRACT OFFICER IDENTIFIED.**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NO.:** HSS 19 018  
**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TITLE:** Healthy Women Healthy Baby Zones  
**DEADLINE TO RESPOND:** April 9, 2019 at 11:00 AM (Local Time)

**NON-COLLUSION STATEMENT**

This is to certify that the undersigned Vendor has neither directly nor indirectly, entered into any agreement, participated in any collusion or otherwise taken any action in restraint of free competitive bidding in connection with this proposal, **and further certifies that it is not a sub-contractor to another Vendor who also submitted a proposal as a primary Vendor in response to this solicitation** submitted this date to the State of Delaware, Division of Public Health

It is agreed by the undersigned Vendor that the signed delivery of this bid represents, subject to any express exceptions set forth at Attachment 3, the Vendor's acceptance of the terms and conditions of this solicitation including all specifications and special provisions.

**NOTE:** Signature of the authorized representative **MUST** be of an individual who legally may enter his/her organization into a formal contract with the State of Delaware, Division of Public Health.

COMPANY NAME _____	Check	<div style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Corporation</div> <div style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Partnership</div> <div style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Individual</div>
NAME OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE _____ (Please type or print)		

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ TITLE \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ FAX NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

FEDERAL E.I. NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ STATE OF DELAWARE  
LICENSE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY CLASSIFICATIONS:	Certification type(s)	Circle all that apply		
CERT. NO.: _____	Minority Business Enterprise (MBE)	Yes	No	
	Woman Business Enterprise (WBE)	Yes	No	
	Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)	Yes	No	
	Veteran Owned Business Enterprise (VOBE)	Yes	No	
	Service Disabled Veteran Owned Business Enterprise (SDVOBE)	Yes	No	

[The above table is for informational and statistical use only.]

PURCHASE ORDERS SHOULD BE SENT TO:  
(COMPANY NAME) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ FAX NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

**AFFIRMATION:** Within the past five years, has your firm, any affiliate, any predecessor company or entity, owner, Director, officer, partner or proprietor been the subject of a Federal, State, Local government suspension or debarment?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ if yes, please explain \_\_\_\_\_

**THIS PAGE SHALL HAVE ORIGINAL SIGNATURE, BE NOTARIZED AND BE RETURNED WITH YOUR PROPOSAL**

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_\_

Notary Public \_\_\_\_\_ My commission expires \_\_\_\_\_

City of \_\_\_\_\_ County of \_\_\_\_\_ State of \_\_\_\_\_



## Attachment 4

# CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION FORM

[illegible]

STATE OF DELAWARE  
Delaware Health and Social Services, Division of Public Health

**Attachment 5**

Request for Proposals No. HSS 19 018  
Request for Proposals Title: Healthy Women Healthy Baby Zones

List a minimum of three business references, including the following information:

- Business Name and Mailing address
- Contact Name and phone number
- Number of years doing business with
- Type of work performed

Please do not list any State Employee as a business reference. If you have held a State contract within the last 5 years, please provide a separate list of the contract(s).

<b>1. Contact Name &amp; Title:</b>	
<b>Business Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>Email:</b>	
<b>Phone # / Fax #:</b>	
<b>Current Vendor (YES or NO):</b>	
<b>Years Associated &amp; Type of Work Performed:</b>	

  

<b>2. Contact Name &amp; Title:</b>	
<b>Business Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>Email:</b>	
<b>Phone # / Fax #:</b>	
<b>Current Vendor (YES or NO):</b>	
<b>Years Associated &amp; Type of Work Performed:</b>	

  

<b>3. Contact Name &amp; Title:</b>	
<b>Business Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>Email:</b>	
<b>Phone # / Fax #:</b>	
<b>Current Vendor (YES or NO):</b>	
<b>Years Associated &amp; Type of Work Performed:</b>	

**STATE OF DELAWARE PERSONNEL MAY NOT BE USED AS REFERENCES.**

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**Attachment 6**

**SUBCONTRACTOR INFORMATION FORM**

<b>PART I – STATEMENT BY PROPOSING VENDOR</b>		
1. CONTRACT NO. HSS 19 018	2. Proposing Vendor Name:	3. Mailing Address
4. SUBCONTRACTOR		
a. NAME	4c. Company OSD Classification:  Certification Number: _____	
b. Mailing Address:	4d. Women Business Enterprise <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No 4e. Minority Business Enterprise <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No 4f. Disadvantaged Business Enterprise <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No 4g. Veteran Owned Business Enterprise <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No 4h. Service Disabled Veteran Owned Business Enterprise <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
5. DESCRIPTION OF WORK BY SUBCONTRACTOR		
6a. NAME OF PERSON SIGNING	7. BY ( <i>Signature</i> )	8. DATE SIGNED
6b. TITLE OF PERSON SIGNING		
<b>PART II – ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BY SUBCONTRACTOR</b>		
9a. NAME OF PERSON SIGNING	10. BY ( <i>Signature</i> )	11. DATE SIGNED
9b. TITLE OF PERSON SIGNING		

**\* Use a separate form for each subcontractor**



## Attachment 7

## State of Delaware - Monthly Usage Report

Contract Number / Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Report Start Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Report End Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Attachment 8

**SAMPLE REPORT - FOR ILLUSTRATION PURPOSES ONLY**

<b>State of Delaware</b>																
<b>Subcontracting (2nd tier) Quarterly Report</b>																
Prime Name:							Report Start Date:									
Contract Name/Number							Report End Date:									
Contact Name:							Today's Date:									
Contact Phone:							*Minimum Required			Requested detail						
Vendor Name*	Vendor TaxID*	Contract Name/ Number*	Vendor Contact Name*	Vendor Contact Phone*	Report Start Date*	Report End Date*	Amount Paid to Subcontractor*	Work Performed by Subcontractor UNSPSC	M/WBE Certifying Agency	Veteran /Service Disabled Veteran Certifying Agency	2nd tier Supplier Name	2nd tier Supplier Address	2nd tier Supplier Phone Number	2nd tier Supplier email	Description of Work Performed	2nd tier Supplier Tax Id

**Note:** A copy of the Subcontracting Quarterly Report will be sent by electronic mail to the Awarded Vendor.

Completed reports shall be saved in an Excel format, and submitted to the following email address: [vendorusage@state.de.us](mailto:vendorusage@state.de.us)

**State of Delaware  
Office of Supplier Diversity  
Certification Application**

The most recent application can be downloaded from the following site:

<http://gss.omb.delaware.gov/osd/certify.shtml>

Submission of a completed Office of Supplier Diversity (OSD) application is optional and does not influence the outcome of any award decision.

The minimum criteria for certification require the entity must be at least 51% owned and actively managed by a person or persons who are eligible: minorities, women, veterans, and/or service disabled veterans. Any one or all of these categories may apply to a 51% owner.



**Complete application and mail, email or fax to:**

Office of Supplier Diversity (OSD)  
100 Enterprise Place, Suite 4  
Dover, DE 19904-8202  
Telephone: (302) 857-4554 Fax: (302) 677-7086  
Email: [osd@state.de.us](mailto:osd@state.de.us)  
Web site: <http://gss.omb.delaware.gov/osd/index.shtml>

**THE OSD ADDRESS IS FOR OSD APPLICATIONS ONLY.  
THE OSD WILL NOT ACCEPT ANY VENDOR BID RESPONSE PACKAGES.**

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Attachment 10



**DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

**BIDDERS SIGNATURE FORM**

NAME OF BIDDER: \_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED PERSON: \_\_\_\_\_  
TYPE IN NAME OF AUTHORIZED PERSON: \_\_\_\_\_  
TITLE OF AUTHORIZED PERSON: \_\_\_\_\_  
STREET NAME AND NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_  
CONTACT PERSON: \_\_\_\_\_  
TELEPHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_  
FAX NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
BIDDER'S FEDERAL EMPLOYERS IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

**THE FOLLOWING MUST BE COMPLETED BY THE VENDOR:**

AS CONSIDERATION FOR THE AWARD AND EXECUTION BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES OF THIS CONTRACT, THE (COMPANY NAME) \_\_\_\_\_  
HEREBY GRANTS, CONVEYS, SELLS, ASSIGNS, AND TRANSFERS TO THE STATE OF DELAWARE ALL OF ITS RIGHTS, TITLE AND INTEREST IN AND TO ALL KNOWN OR UNKNOWN CAUSES OF ACTION IT PRESENTLY HAS OR MAY NOW HEREAFTER ACQUIRE UNDER THE ANTITRUST LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE STATE OF DELAWARE, RELATING THE PARTICULAR GOODS OR SERVICES PURCHASED OR ACQUIRED BY THE DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, PURSUANT TO THIS CONTRACT.



**DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

**STATEMENTS OF COMPLIANCE FORM**

As the official representative for the contractor, I certify on behalf of the agency that \_\_\_\_\_ (Company Name) will comply with all Federal and Delaware laws and regulations pertaining to equal employment opportunity and affirmative action. In addition, compliance will be assured in regard to Federal and Delaware laws and regulations relating to confidentiality and individual and family privacy in the collection and reporting of data.

Authorized Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



**DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

**CERTIFICATION SHEET**

As the official representative for the proposer, I certify on behalf of the agency that:

- a. They are a regular dealer in the services being procured.
- b. They have the ability to fulfill all requirements specified for development within this RFP.
- c. They have independently determined their prices.
- d. They are accurately representing their type of business and affiliations.
- e. They will secure a Delaware Business License.
- f. They have acknowledged that no contingency fees have been paid to obtain award of this contract.
- g. The Prices in this offer have been arrived at independently, without consultation, communication, or agreement, for the purpose of restricting competition, as to any matter relating to such prices with any other contractor or with any competitor;
- h. Unless otherwise required by Law, the prices which have been quoted in this offer have not been knowingly disclosed by the contractor and prior to the award in the case of a negotiated procurement, directly or indirectly to any other contractor or to any competitor; and

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- i. No attempt has been made or will be made by the contractor in part to other persons or firm to submit or not to submit an offer for the purpose of restricting competition.
- j. They have not employed or retained any company or person (other than a full-time bona fide employee working solely for the contractor) to solicit or secure this contract, and they have not paid or agreed to pay any company or person (other than a full-time bona fide employee working solely for the contractor) any fee, commission percentage or brokerage fee contingent upon or resulting from the award of this contract.
- k. They (check one) operate \_\_\_an individual; \_\_\_a Partnership \_\_\_a non-profit (501 C-3) organization; \_\_\_a not-for-profit organization; or \_\_\_for profit corporation, incorporated under the laws of the State of \_\_\_\_\_.
- l. The referenced offerer has neither directly or indirectly entered into any agreement, participated in any collusion or otherwise taken any action in restraint of free competitive bidding in connection with this bid submitted this date to Delaware Health and Social Services.
- m. The referenced bidder agrees that the signed delivery of this bid represents the bidder's acceptance of the terms and conditions of this invitation to bid including all Specifications and special provisions.
- n. They (check one): \_\_\_\_\_are; \_\_\_\_\_are not owned or controlled by a parent company. If owned or controlled by a parent company, enter name and address of parent company:

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**Violations and Penalties:**

Each contract entered into by an agency for professional services shall contain a prohibition against contingency fees as follows:

- 1. The firm offering professional services swears that it has not employed or retained any company or person working primarily for the firm offering professional services, to solicit or secure this agreement by improperly influencing the agency or any of its employees in the professional service procurement process.

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2. The firm offering the professional services has not paid or agreed to pay any person, company, corporation, individual or firm other than a bona fide employee working primarily for the firm offering professional services, any fee, commission, percentage, gift, or any other consideration contingent upon or resulting from the award or making of this agreement; and
3. For the violation of this provision, the agency shall have the right to terminate the agreement without liability and at its discretion, to deduct from the contract price, or otherwise recover the full amount of such fee, commission, percentage, gift or consideration.

The following conditions are understood and agreed to:

- a. No charges, other than those specified in the cost proposal, are to be levied upon the State as a result of a contract.
- b. The State will have exclusive ownership of all products of this contract unless mutually agreed to in writing at the time a binding contract is executed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature & Title of Official Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Type Name of Official Representative



## APPENDIX A

### MINIMUM MANDATORY SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Each vendor solicitation response should contain at a minimum the following information:

1. Transmittal Letter as specified on page 3 of the Request for Proposal including an Applicant's experience, if any, providing similar services.
2. The remaining vendor proposal package shall identify how the vendor proposes meeting the contract requirements and shall include pricing. Vendors are encouraged to review the Evaluation criteria identified to see how the proposals will be scored and verify that the response has sufficient documentation to support each criteria listed.
3. Pricing as identified in the solicitation.
4. One (1) complete, signed and notarized copy of the non-collusion agreement (See Attachment 2). Bid marked "ORIGINAL", **MUST HAVE ORIGINAL SIGNATURES AND NOTARY MARK.** All other copies may have reproduced or copied signatures – Form must be included.
5. One (1) completed RFP Exception form (See Attachment 3) – please check box if no information – Form must be included.
6. One (1) completed Confidentiality Form (See Attachment 4) – please check if no information is deemed confidential – Form must be included.
7. One (1) completed Business Reference form (See Attachment 5) – please provide references other than State of Delaware contacts – Form must be included.
8. One (1) complete and signed copy of the Subcontractor Information Form (See Attachment 6) for each subcontractor – only provide if applicable.
9. One (1) complete OSD application (See link on Attachment 9) – only provide if applicable
10. One (1) complete, signed Bidders Signature Form. (See Attachment 10)
11. One (1) complete, signed Statements of Compliance Form (See Attachment 11)
12. One (1) complete, signed Certification Sheet (See Attachment 12)
13. Responses to Supplier Diversity and Inclusion plan questions located in Evaluation Criteria section of this RFP (Section IV.C.2.).

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The items listed above provide the basis for evaluating each vendor's proposal. **Failure to provide all appropriate information may deem the submitting vendor as "non-responsive" and exclude the vendor from further consideration.** If an item listed above is not applicable to your company or proposal, please make note in your submission package.

Vendors shall provide proposal packages in the following formats:

1. Two (2) paper copies of the vendor proposal paperwork. **One (1) paper copy must be an original copy, marked "ORIGINAL" on the cover, and contain original signatures.**
2. Six (6) electronic copies of the vendor proposal saved to CD or DVD media disk. (If Agency has requested multiple electronic copies, each electronic copy must be on a separate computer disk or media).

*[balance of page is intentionally left blank]*

**APPENDIX B**  
**DETAILED SCOPE OF WORK**

See Page 4, Section II of this RFP

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**APPENDIX C**

**SAMPLE CONTRACT BOILERPLATE**

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT**  
**For**  
**[ENTER CONTRACT NAME]**  
**Contract No. [Enter Contract Number]**

This Professional Services Agreement ("Agreement") is entered into as of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ (Effective Date) and will end on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, by and between the State of Delaware, Department of \_\_\_\_\_, Division of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ ("Delaware"), and \_\_\_\_\_, (the "Vendor"), with offices at \_\_\_\_\_.

WHEREAS, Delaware desires to obtain certain services to \_\_\_\_\_; and \_\_\_\_\_.

WHEREAS, Vendor desires to provide such services to Delaware on the terms set forth below;

WHEREAS, Delaware and Vendor represent and warrant that each party has full right, power and authority to enter into and perform under this Agreement;

FOR AND IN CONSIDERATION OF the premises and mutual agreements herein, Delaware and Vendor agree as follows:

**1. Services.**

1.1. Vendor shall perform for Delaware the services specified in the Appendices to this Agreement, attached hereto and made a part hereof.

1.2. Any conflict or inconsistency between the provisions of the following documents shall be resolved by giving precedence to such documents in the following order: (a) this Agreement (including any amendments or modifications thereto); (b) Delaware's request for proposals, attached hereto as Appendix \_\_\_\_\_; and (c) Vendor's response to the request for proposals, attached hereto as Exhibit \_\_\_\_\_. The aforementioned documents are specifically incorporated into this Agreement and made a part hereof.

1.3. Delaware may, at any time, by written order, make changes in the scope of this Agreement and in the services or work to be performed. No services for which additional compensation may be charged by Vendor shall be furnished, without the written authorization of Delaware. When Delaware desires any addition or deletion to the deliverables or a change in the Services to be provided under this Agreement, it shall notify Vendor, who shall then submit to Delaware a "Change Order" for approval authorizing said change. The Change Order shall state whether the change shall cause an alteration in the price or the time required by Vendor for any aspect of its performance under this Agreement. Pricing of changes shall be consistent with those established within this Agreement.

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- 1.4. Vendor will not be required to make changes to its scope of work that result in Vendor's costs exceeding the current unencumbered budgeted appropriations for the services. Any claim of either party for an adjustment under Section 1 of this Agreement shall be asserted in the manner specified in the writing that authorizes the adjustment.

**2. Payment for Services and Expenses.**

- 2.1. The term of the initial contract shall be from [REDACTED], 20[REDACTED] through [REDACTED], 20[REDACTED].
- 2.2. Delaware will pay Vendor for the performance of services described in Appendix [REDACTED], Statement of Work. The fee will be paid in accordance with the payment schedule attached hereto as part of Appendix [REDACTED].
- 2.3. Delaware's obligation to pay Vendor for the performance of services described in Appendix [REDACTED], Statement of Work will not exceed the fixed fee amount of \$[REDACTED]. It is expressly understood that the work defined in the appendices to this Agreement must be completed by Vendor and it shall be Vendor's responsibility to ensure that hours and tasks are properly budgeted so that all services are completed for the agreed upon fixed fee. Delaware's total liability for all charges for services that may become due under this Agreement is limited to the total maximum expenditure(s) authorized in Delaware's purchase order(s) to Vendor.
- 2.4. The State reserves the right to pay by Automated Clearing House (ACH), Purchase Card (P-Card), or check. Agencies that are part of the First State Financial (FSF) system are required to identify the contract number **ENTER CONTRACT NUMBER** on all Purchase Orders (P.O.) and shall complete the same when entering P.O. information in the state's financial reporting system.
- 2.5. The State of Delaware intends to maximize the use of the Purchase Card (P-Card) for payment for goods and services provided under contract. Vendors shall not charge additional fees for acceptance of this payment method and shall incorporate any costs into their proposals. Additionally there shall be no minimum or maximum limits on any P-Card transaction under the contract.
- 2.6. Vendor shall submit monthly invoices to Delaware in sufficient detail to support the services provided during the previous month. Delaware agrees to pay those invoices within thirty (30) days of receipt. In the event Delaware disputes a portion of an invoice, Delaware agrees to pay the undisputed portion of the invoice within thirty (30) days of receipt and to provide Vendor a detailed statement of Delaware's position on the disputed portion of the invoice within thirty (30) days of receipt. Delaware's failure to pay any amount of an invoice that is not the subject of a good-faith dispute within thirty (30) days of receipt shall entitle Vendor to charge interest on the overdue portion at the lower of 1.0% per month. All payments should be sent to the Vendor's identified address on record with the State of Delaware's Division of Accounting as identified in the completion of the electronic W-9.
- 2.7. Unless provided otherwise in an Appendix, all expenses incurred in the performance of the services are to be paid by Vendor. If an Appendix specifically provides for expense reimbursement, Vendor shall be reimbursed only for reasonable expenses incurred by Vendor in the performance of the services, including, but not necessarily limited to, travel and lodging expenses, communications charges, and computer time and supplies.

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- 2.8. Delaware is a sovereign entity, and shall not be liable for the payment of federal, state and local sales, use and excise taxes, including any interest and penalties from any related deficiency, which may become due and payable as a consequence of this Agreement.
- 2.9. Delaware shall subtract from any payment made to Vendor all damages, costs and expenses caused by Vendor's negligence, resulting from or arising out of errors or omissions in Vendor's work products, which have not been previously paid to Vendor.
- 2.10. Invoices shall be submitted to:

**3. Responsibilities of Vendor.**

- 3.1. Vendor shall be responsible for the professional quality, technical accuracy, timely completion, and coordination of all services furnished by Vendor, its subcontractors and its and their principals, officers, employees and agents under this Agreement. In performing the specified services, Vendor shall follow practices consistent with generally accepted professional and technical standards. Vendor shall be responsible for ensuring that all services, products and deliverables furnished pursuant to this Agreement comply with the standards promulgated by the Department of Technology and Information ("DTI") published at <http://dti.delaware.gov/>, and as modified from time to time by DTI during the term of this Agreement. If any service, product or deliverable furnished pursuant to this Agreement does not conform to DTI standards, Vendor shall, at its expense and option either (1) replace it with a conforming equivalent or (2) modify it to conform to DTI standards. Vendor shall be and remain liable in accordance with the terms of this Agreement and applicable law for all damages to Delaware caused by Vendor's failure to ensure compliance with DTI standards.
- 3.2. It shall be the duty of the Vendor to assure that all products of its effort are technically sound and in conformance with all pertinent Federal, State and Local statutes, codes, ordinances, resolutions and other regulations. Vendor will not produce a work product that violates or infringes on any copyright or patent rights. Vendor shall, without additional compensation, correct or revise any errors or omissions in its work products.
- 3.3. Permitted or required approval by Delaware of any products or services furnished by Vendor shall not in any way relieve Vendor of responsibility for the professional and technical accuracy and adequacy of its work. Delaware's review, approval, acceptance, or payment for any of Vendor's services herein shall not be construed to operate as a waiver of any rights under this Agreement or of any cause of action arising out of the performance of this Agreement, and Vendor shall be and remain liable in accordance with the terms of this Agreement and applicable law for all damages to Delaware caused by Vendor's performance or failure to perform under this Agreement.
- 3.4. Vendor shall appoint a Project Manager who will manage the performance of services. All of the services specified by this Agreement shall be performed by the Project Manager, or by Vendor's associates and employees under the personal supervision of the Project Manager. The positions anticipated include:

Project	Team	Title	% of Project Involvement

- 3.5. Designation of persons for each position is subject to review and approval by Delaware. Should the staff need to be diverted off the project for what are now unforeseeable circumstances,

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Vendor will notify Delaware immediately and work out a transition plan that is acceptable to both parties, as well as agree to an acceptable replacement plan to fill or complete the work assigned to this project staff position. Replacement staff persons are subject to review and approval by Delaware. If Vendor fails to make a required replacement within 30 days, Delaware may terminate this Agreement for default. Upon receipt of written notice from Delaware that an employee of Vendor is unsuitable to Delaware for good cause, Vendor shall remove such employee from the performance of services and substitute in his/her place a suitable employee.

- 3.6. Vendor shall furnish to Delaware's designated representative copies of all correspondence to regulatory agencies for review prior to mailing such correspondence.
- 3.7. Vendor agrees that its officers and employees will cooperate with Delaware in the performance of services under this Agreement and will be available for consultation with Delaware at such reasonable times with advance notice as to not conflict with their other responsibilities.
- 3.8. Vendor has or will retain such employees as it may need to perform the services required by this Agreement. Such employees shall not be employed by Delaware or any other political subdivision of Delaware.
- 3.9. Vendor will not use Delaware's name, either express or implied, in any of its advertising or sales materials without Delaware's express written consent.
- 3.10. The rights and remedies of Delaware provided for in this Agreement are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law.

**4. Time Schedule.**

- 4.1. A project schedule is included in Appendix A.
- 4.2. Any delay of services or change in sequence of tasks must be approved in writing by Delaware.
- 4.3. In the event that Vendor fails to complete the project or any phase thereof within the time specified in the Contract, or with such additional time as may be granted in writing by Delaware, or fails to prosecute the work, or any separable part thereof, with such diligence as will insure its completion within the time specified in this Agreement or any extensions thereof, Delaware shall suspend the payments scheduled as set forth in Appendix A.

**5. State Responsibilities.**

- 5.1. In connection with Vendor's provision of the Services, Delaware shall perform those tasks and fulfill those responsibilities specified in the appropriate Appendices.
- 5.2. Delaware agrees that its officers and employees will cooperate with Vendor in the performance of services under this Agreement and will be available for consultation with Vendor at such reasonable times with advance notice as to not conflict with their other responsibilities.
- 5.3. The services performed by Vendor under this Agreement shall be subject to review for compliance with the terms of this Agreement by Delaware's designated representatives. Delaware representatives may delegate any or all responsibilities under the Agreement to

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appropriate staff members, and shall so inform Vendor by written notice before the effective date of each such delegation.

- 5.4. The review comments of Delaware's designated representatives may be reported in writing as needed to Vendor. It is understood that Delaware's representatives' review comments do not relieve Vendor from the responsibility for the professional and technical accuracy of all work delivered under this Agreement.
- 5.5. Delaware shall, without charge, furnish to or make available for examination or use by Vendor as it may request, any data which Delaware has available, including as examples only and not as a limitation:
- a. Copies of reports, surveys, records, and other pertinent documents;
  - b. Copies of previously prepared reports, job specifications, surveys, records, ordinances, codes, regulations, other documents, and information related to the services specified by this Agreement.

Vendor shall return any original data provided by Delaware.

- 5.6. Delaware shall assist Vendor in obtaining data on documents from public officers or agencies and from private citizens and business firms whenever such material is necessary for the completion of the services specified by this Agreement.
- 5.7. Vendor will not be responsible for accuracy of information or data supplied by Delaware or other sources to the extent such information or data would be relied upon by a reasonably prudent contractor.
- 5.8. Delaware agrees not to use Vendor's name, either express or implied, in any of its advertising or sales materials. Vendor reserves the right to reuse the nonproprietary data and the analysis of industry-related information in its continuing analysis of the industries covered.

**6. Work Product.**

- 6.1. All materials, information, documents, and reports, whether finished, unfinished, or draft, developed, prepared, completed, or acquired by Vendor for Delaware relating to the services to be performed hereunder shall become the property of Delaware and shall be delivered to Delaware's designated representative upon completion or termination of this Agreement, whichever comes first. Vendor shall not be liable for damages, claims, and losses arising out of any reuse of any work products on any other project conducted by Delaware. Delaware shall have the right to reproduce all documentation supplied pursuant to this Agreement.
- 6.2. Vendor retains all title and interest to the data it furnished and/or generated pursuant to this Agreement. Retention of such title and interest does not conflict with Delaware's rights to the materials, information and documents developed in performing the project. Upon final payment, Delaware shall have a perpetual, nontransferable, non-exclusive paid-up right and license to use, copy, modify and prepare derivative works of all materials in which Vendor retains title, whether individually by Vendor or jointly with Delaware. Any and all source code developed in connection with the services provided will be provided to Delaware, and the aforementioned right and license shall apply to source code. The parties will cooperate with each other and execute such other documents as may be reasonably deemed necessary to achieve the objectives of this Section.



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6.3. In no event shall Vendor be precluded from developing for itself, or for others, materials that are competitive with the Deliverables, irrespective of their similarity to the Deliverables. In addition, Vendor shall be free to use its general knowledge, skills and experience, and any ideas, concepts, know-how, and techniques within the scope of its consulting practice that are used in the course of providing the services.

6.4. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein or in any attachment hereto, any and all intellectual property or other proprietary data owned by Vendor prior to the effective date of this Agreement ("Preexisting Information") shall remain the exclusive property of Vendor even if such Preexisting Information is embedded or otherwise incorporated into materials or products first produced as a result of this Agreement or used to develop such materials or products. Delaware's rights under this section shall not apply to any Preexisting Information or any component thereof regardless of form or media.

**7. Confidential Information.**

To the extent permissible under 29 *Del. C.* § 10001, et seq., the parties to this Agreement shall preserve in strict confidence any information, reports or documents obtained, assembled or prepared in connection with the performance of this Agreement.

**8. Warranty.**

8.1. Vendor warrants that its services will be performed in a good and workmanlike manner. Vendor agrees to re-perform any work not in compliance with this warranty brought to its attention within a reasonable time after that work is performed.

8.2. Third-party products within the scope of this Agreement are warranted solely under the terms and conditions of the licenses or other agreements by which such products are governed. With respect to all third-party products and services purchased by Vendor for Delaware in connection with the provision of the Services, Vendor shall pass through or assign to Delaware the rights Vendor obtains from the manufacturers and/or vendors of such products and services (including warranty and indemnification rights), all to the extent that such rights are assignable.

**9. Indemnification; Limitation of Liability.**

9.1. Vendor shall indemnify and hold harmless the State, its agents and employees, from any and all liability, suits, actions or claims, together with all reasonable costs and expenses (including attorneys' fees) directly arising out of:

- a. the negligence or other wrongful conduct of the Vendor, its agents or employees, or
- b. Vendor's breach of any material provision of this Agreement not cured after due notice and opportunity to cure, provided as to (A) or (B) that
  - i. Vendor shall have been notified promptly in writing by Delaware of any notice of such claim; and
  - ii. Vendor shall have the sole control of the defense of any action on such claim and all negotiations for its settlement or compromise.

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9.2. If Delaware promptly notifies Vendor in writing of a third party claim against Delaware that any Deliverable infringes a copyright or a trade secret of any third party, Vendor will defend such claim at its expense and will pay any costs or damages that may be finally awarded against Delaware. Vendor will not indemnify Delaware, however, if the claim of infringement is caused by:

- a. Delaware's misuse or modification of the Deliverable;
- b. Delaware's failure to use corrections or enhancements made available by Vendor;
- c. Delaware's use of the Deliverable in combination with any product or information not owned or developed by Vendor;
- d. Delaware's distribution, marketing or use for the benefit of third parties of the Deliverable or
- e. Information, direction, specification or materials provided by Client or any third party. If any Deliverable is, or in Vendor's opinion is likely to be, held to be infringing, Vendor shall at its expense and option either
  - i. Procure the right for Delaware to continue using it,
  - ii. Replace it with a non-infringing equivalent,
  - iii. Modify it to make it non-infringing.

The foregoing remedies constitute Delaware's sole and exclusive remedies and Vendor's entire liability with respect to infringement.

**10. Employees.**

10.1. Vendor has and shall retain the right to exercise full control over the employment, direction, compensation and discharge of all persons employed by Vendor in the performance of the services hereunder; provided, however, that it will, subject to scheduling and staffing considerations, attempt to honor Delaware's request for specific individuals.

10.2. Except as the other party expressly authorizes in writing in advance, neither party shall solicit, offer work to, employ, or contract with, whether as a partner, employee or independent contractor, directly or indirectly, any of the other party's Personnel during their participation in the services or during the twelve (12) months thereafter. For purposes of this Section, Personnel includes any individual or company a party employs as a partner, employee or independent contractor and with which a party comes into direct contact in the course of the services.

10.3. Possession of a Security Clearance, as issued by the Delaware Department of Public Safety, may be required of any employee of Vendor who will be assigned to this project.

**11. Independent Contractor.**

11.1. It is understood that in the performance of the services herein provided for, Vendor shall be, and is, an independent contractor, and is not an agent or employee of Delaware and shall furnish such services in its own manner and method except as required by this Agreement. Vendor

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shall be solely responsible for, and shall indemnify, defend and save Delaware harmless from all matters relating to the payment of its employees, including compliance with social security, withholding and all other wages, salaries, benefits, taxes, exactions, and regulations of any nature whatsoever.

- 11.2. Vendor acknowledges that Vendor and any subcontractors, agents or employees employed by Vendor shall not, under any circumstances, be considered employees of Delaware, and that they shall not be entitled to any of the benefits or rights afforded employees of Delaware, including, but not limited to, sick leave, vacation leave, holiday pay, Public Employees Retirement System benefits, or health, life, dental, long-term disability or workers' compensation insurance benefits. Delaware will not provide or pay for any liability or medical insurance, retirement contributions or any other benefits for or on behalf of Delaware or any of its officers, employees or other agents.
- 11.3. Vendor shall be responsible for providing liability insurance for its personnel.
- 11.4. As an independent contractor, Vendor has no authority to bind or commit Delaware. Nothing herein shall be deemed or construed to create a joint venture, partnership, fiduciary or agency relationship between the parties for any purpose.

**12. Dispute Resolution.**

- 12.1. At the option of, and in the manner prescribed by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), the parties shall attempt in good faith to resolve any dispute arising out of or relating to this Agreement promptly by negotiation between executives who have authority to settle the controversy and who are at a higher level of management than the persons with direct responsibility for administration of this Agreement. All offers, promises, conduct and statements, whether oral or written, made in the course of the negotiation by any of the parties, their agents, employees, experts and attorneys are confidential, privileged and inadmissible for any purpose, including impeachment, in arbitration or other proceeding involving the parties, provided evidence that is otherwise admissible or discoverable shall not be rendered inadmissible.
- 12.2. If the matter is not resolved by negotiation, as outlined above, or, alternatively, OMB elects to proceed directly to mediation, then the matter will proceed to mediation as set forth below. Any disputes, claims or controversies arising out of or relating to this Agreement shall be submitted to mediation by a mediator selected by OMB, and if the matter is not resolved through mediation, then it shall be submitted, in the sole discretion of OMB, to the Office of Management and Budget, Government Support Services Director, for final and binding arbitration. OMB reserves the right to proceed directly to arbitration or litigation without negotiation or mediation. Any such proceedings held pursuant to this provision shall be governed by Delaware law and venue shall be in Delaware. The parties shall maintain the confidential nature of the arbitration proceeding and the Award, including the Hearing, except as may be necessary to prepare for or conduct the arbitration hearing on the merits. Each party shall bear its own costs of mediation, arbitration or litigation, including attorneys' fees.

**13. Suspension.**

- 13.1. Delaware may suspend performance by Vendor under this Agreement for such period of time as Delaware, at its sole discretion, may prescribe by providing written notice to Vendor at least 30 working days prior to the date on which Delaware wishes to suspend. Upon such suspension,

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Delaware shall pay Vendor its compensation, based on the percentage of the project completed and earned until the effective date of suspension, less all previous payments. Vendor shall not perform further work under this Agreement after the effective date of suspension. Vendor shall not perform further work under this Agreement after the effective date of suspension until receipt of written notice from Delaware to resume performance.

- 13.2. In the event Delaware suspends performance by Vendor for any cause other than the error or omission of the Vendor, for an aggregate period in excess of 30 days, Vendor shall be entitled to an equitable adjustment of the compensation payable to Vendor under this Agreement to reimburse Vendor for additional costs occasioned as a result of such suspension of performance by Delaware based on appropriated funds and approval by Delaware.

**14. Termination.**

- 14.1. This Agreement may be terminated in whole or in part by either party in the event of substantial failure of the other party to fulfill its obligations under this Agreement through no fault of the terminating party; but only after the other party is given:

- a. Not less than 20 calendar days written notice of intent to terminate; and
- b. An opportunity for consultation with the terminating party prior to termination.

- 14.2. This Agreement may be terminated in whole or in part by Delaware for its convenience, but only after Vendor is given:

- a. Not less than 20 calendar days written notice of intent to terminate; and
- b. An opportunity for consultation with Delaware prior to termination.

- 14.3. If termination for default is effected by Delaware, Delaware will pay Vendor that portion of the compensation which has been earned as of the effective date of termination, but:

- a. No amount shall be allowed for anticipated profit on performed or unperformed services or other work, and
- b. Any payment due to Vendor at the time of termination may be adjusted to the extent of any additional costs occasioned to Delaware by reason of Vendor's default.
- c. Upon termination for default, Delaware may take over the work and prosecute the same to completion by agreement with another party or otherwise. In the event Vendor shall cease conducting business, Delaware shall have the right to make an unsolicited offer of employment to any employees of Vendor assigned to the performance of the Agreement, notwithstanding the provisions of Section 10.2.

- 14.4. If after termination for failure of Vendor to fulfill contractual obligations it is determined that Vendor has not so failed, the termination shall be deemed to have been effected for the convenience of Delaware.

- 14.5. The rights and remedies of Delaware and Vendor provided in this section are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this Agreement.

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14.6. Gratuities.

- a. Delaware may, by written notice to Vendor, terminate this Agreement if it is found after notice and hearing by Delaware that gratuities (in the form of entertainment, gifts, or otherwise) were offered or given by Vendor or any agent or representative of Vendor to any officer or employee of Delaware with a view toward securing a contract or securing favorable treatment with respect to the awarding or amending or making of any determinations with respect to the performance of this Agreement.
- b. In the event this Agreement is terminated as provided in 14.6.a hereof, Delaware shall be entitled to pursue the same remedies against Vendor it could pursue in the event of a breach of this Agreement by Vendor.
- c. The rights and remedies of Delaware provided in Section 14.6 shall not be exclusive and are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this Agreement.

15. **Severability.**

If any term or provision of this Agreement is found by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, illegal or otherwise unenforceable, the same shall not affect the other terms or provisions hereof or the whole of this Agreement, but such term or provision shall be deemed modified to the extent necessary in the court's opinion to render such term or provision enforceable, and the rights and obligations of the parties shall be construed and enforced accordingly, preserving to the fullest permissible extent the intent and agreements of the parties herein set forth.

16. **Assignment; Subcontracts.**

- 16.1. Any attempt by Vendor to assign or otherwise transfer any interest in this Agreement without the prior written consent of Delaware shall be void. Such consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- 16.2. Services specified by this Agreement shall not be subcontracted by Vendor, without prior written approval of Delaware.
- 16.3. Approval by Delaware of Vendor's request to subcontract or acceptance of or payment for subcontracted work by Delaware shall not in any way relieve Vendor of responsibility for the professional and technical accuracy and adequacy of the work. All subcontractors shall adhere to all applicable provisions of this Agreement.
- 16.4. Vendor shall be and remain liable for all damages to Delaware caused by negligent performance or non-performance of work under this Agreement by Vendor, its subcontractor or its sub-subcontractor.
- 16.5. The compensation due shall not be affected by Delaware's approval of the Vendor's request to subcontract.

17. **Force Majeure.**

Neither party shall be liable for any delays or failures in performance due to circumstances beyond its reasonable control.

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**18. Non-Appropriation of Funds.**

- 18.1. Validity and enforcement of this Agreement is subject to appropriations by the General Assembly of the specific funds necessary for contract performance. Should such funds not be so appropriated Delaware may immediately terminate this Agreement, and absent such action this Agreement shall be terminated as to any obligation of the State requiring the expenditure of money for which no specific appropriation is available, at the end of the last fiscal year for which no appropriation is available or upon the exhaustion of funds.
- 18.2. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Agreement, this Agreement shall terminate and Delaware's obligations under it shall be extinguished at the end of the fiscal year in which Delaware fails to appropriate monies for the ensuing fiscal year sufficient for the payment of all amounts which will then become due.

**19. State of Delaware Business License.**

Vendor and all subcontractors represent that they are properly licensed and authorized to transact business in the State of Delaware as provided in 30 *Del. C.* ' 2502.

**20. Complete Agreement.**

- 20.1. This agreement and its Appendices shall constitute the entire agreement between Delaware and Vendor with respect to the subject matter of this Agreement and shall not be modified or changed without the express written consent of the parties. The provisions of this agreement supersede all prior oral and written quotations, communications, agreements and understandings of the parties with respect to the subject matter of this Agreement.
- 20.2. If the scope of any provision of this Agreement is too broad in any respect whatsoever to permit enforcement to its full extent, then such provision shall be enforced to the maximum extent permitted by law, and the parties hereto consent and agree that such scope may be judicially modified accordingly and that the whole of such provisions of the Agreement shall not thereby fail, but the scope of such provision shall be curtailed only to the extent necessary to conform to the law.
- 20.3. Vendor may not order any product requiring a purchase order prior to Delaware's issuance of such order. Each Appendix, except as its terms otherwise expressly provide, shall be a complete statement of its subject matter and shall supplement and modify the terms and conditions of this Agreement for the purposes of that engagement only. No other agreements, representations, warranties or other matters, whether oral or written, shall be deemed to bind the parties hereto with respect to the subject matter hereof.

**21. Miscellaneous Provisions.**

- 21.1. In performance of this Agreement, Vendor shall comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, ordinances, codes and regulations. Vendor shall solely bear the costs of permits and other relevant costs required in the performance of this Agreement.
- 21.2. Neither this Agreement nor any appendix may be modified or amended except by the mutual written agreement of the parties. No waiver of any provision of this Agreement shall be effective unless it is in writing and signed by the party against which it is sought to be enforced.

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- 21.3. The delay or failure by either party to exercise or enforce any of its rights under this Agreement shall not constitute or be deemed a waiver of that party's right thereafter to enforce those rights, nor shall any single or partial exercise of any such right preclude any other or further exercise thereof or the exercise of any other right.
- 21.4. Vendor covenants that it presently has no interest and that it will not acquire any interest, direct or indirect, which would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of services required to be performed under this Agreement. Vendor further covenants, to its knowledge and ability, that in the performance of said services no person having any such interest shall be employed.
- 21.5. Vendor acknowledges that Delaware has an obligation to ensure that public funds are not used to subsidize private discrimination. Vendor recognizes that if they refuse to hire or do business with an individual or company due to reasons of race, color, gender, ethnicity, disability, national origin, age, or any other protected status, Delaware may declare Vendor in breach of the Agreement, terminate the Agreement, and designate Vendor as non-responsible.
- 21.6. Vendor warrants that no person or selling agency has been employed or retained to solicit or secure this Agreement upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, or a percentage, brokerage or contingent fee. For breach or violation of this warranty, Delaware shall have the right to annul this contract without liability or at its discretion deduct from the contract price or otherwise recover the full amount of such commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee.
- 21.7. This Agreement was drafted with the joint participation of both parties and shall be construed neither against nor in favor of either, but rather in accordance with the fair meaning thereof.
- 21.8. Vendor shall maintain all public records, as defined by 29 *Del. C.* ' 502(1), relating to this Agreement and its deliverables for the time and in the manner specified by the Delaware Division of Archives, pursuant to the Delaware Public Records Law, 29 *Del. C.* Ch. 5. During the term of this Agreement, authorized representatives of Delaware may inspect or audit Vendor's performance and records pertaining to this Agreement at the Vendor business office during normal business hours.

**22. Insurance.**

- 22.1. Vendor shall maintain the following insurance during the term of this Agreement:
- a. Worker's Compensation and Employer's Liability Insurance in accordance with applicable law.
  - b. Comprehensive General Liability - \$1,000,000.00 per occurrence/\$3,000,000 per aggregate.
- 22.2. As applicable and determined necessary by the State, the Vendor shall also maintain:
- a. Medical/Professional Liability - \$1,000,000.00 per occurrence/\$3,000,000 per aggregate
  - b. Miscellaneous Errors and Omissions - \$1,000,000.00 per occurrence/\$3,000,000 per aggregate
  - c. Product Liability - \$1,000,000 per occurrence/\$3,000,000 aggregate

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d. Automotive Liability Insurance (Bodily Injury) covering all automotive units transporting departmental clients or staff used in the work with limits of not less than \$100,000 each person and \$300,000 each accident as to bodily injury and \$25,000 as to property damage to others.

e. Automotive Property Damage (to others) - \$25,000

22.3. Should any of the above described policies be cancelled before expiration date thereof, notice will be delivered in accordance with the policy provisions.

22.4. Before any work is done pursuant to this Agreement, the Certificate of Insurance and/or copies of the insurance policies, referencing the contract number stated herein, shall be filed with the State. The certificate holder is as follows:

**[ENTER AGENCY NAME]**  
**[ENTER AGENCY ADDRESS]**  
**[ENTER AGENCY CONTACT]**

22.5. In no event shall the State of Delaware be named as an additional insured on any policy required under this agreement.

**23. Assignment of Antitrust Claims.**

As consideration for the award and execution of this contract by the State, Vendor hereby grants, conveys, sells, assigns, and transfers to the State of Delaware all of its right, title and interest in and to all known or unknown causes of action it presently has or may now or hereafter acquire under the antitrust laws of the United States and the State of Delaware, regarding the particular goods or services purchased or acquired for the State pursuant to this contract. Upon either the State's or the Vendor notice of the filing of or reasonable likelihood of filing of an action under the antitrust laws of the United States or the State of Delaware, the State and Vendor shall meet and confer about coordination of representation in such action.

**24. Governing Law.**

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Delaware, except where Federal Law has precedence. Vendor consents to jurisdiction venue in the State of Delaware.

**25. Notices.**

Any and all notices required by the provisions of this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be mailed, certified or registered mail, return receipt requested. All notices shall be sent to the following addresses:

DELAWARE:

(Agency contact address)

VENDOR:

(Vendor contact address)



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IN WITNESS THEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be duly executed as of the date and year first above written.

**STATE OF DELAWARE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**VENDOR**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**APPENDIX D**

**POLICIES AND PROGRAMS TO REDUCE EXPOSURES OF DISADVANTAGED PEOPLE  
TO HEALTH DAMAGING FACTORS**

## APPENDIX D

### POLICIES AND PROGRAMS TO REDUCE EXPOSURES OF DISADVANTAGED PEOPLE TO HEALTH DAMAGING FACTORS

#### Housing

Housing matters in a discussion of SDOH for several reasons. Rauh and colleagues have written about the role of housing conditions in exposure to environmental toxins which translate social adversities in the form of housing into individual illness and population health disparities. Gross inequities in the distribution of toxic exposures have been described in studies of household and community exposures, resulting in a range of social and health determinants. For pregnant women, infants, and young children such exposures can result in life threatening conditions, as well as infant deaths.

The role of housing conditions in sleep-related infant injury death (SIDS/SUID) also has been studied but is not widely understood. A retrospective review of sleep-related infant injury death cases where an infant was found sleeping on an unsafe sleep surface found that in nearly one-quarter of cases, a crib or bassinet was identified in the home. No differences were found between infants with cribs or bassinets and those without them in terms of demographic or other risk characteristics. Qualitative analysis suggested the lack of crib or bassinet use may be related to environmental factors influenced by poverty, specifically crowded living space, room temperature, and vermin infestation.

Unstable housing and homelessness are more common among pregnant women than is generally understood. Housing instability is not widely studied; however, one study in New York City found more than a quarter of pregnant women who gave birth in community hospitals reported housing instability (two or more moves within past year). Adjusting for other known risk factors, housing instability was found to be a significant predictor of low birthweight birth.

In Boston, the Healthy Start in Housing (HSiH) seeks improved birth outcomes and long-term health of mothers and infants through improved housing support. The project is a partnership between the Boston Public Health Commission and the Boston Housing Authority designed to reduce stress due to housing insecurity among low-income, pregnant women. Among eligible women, more than half had medical conditions or mental health conditions and 3 in 10 had multiple risks.

The US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has multiple projects underway to protect the health and well-being of pregnant women, infants, and their families. For example, Second Chance Homes are adult-supervised, group homes or apartments for teen mothers and their children who cannot live at home because of abuse, neglect or other extenuating circumstances. The Healthy Homes for Healthy

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Families initiative aims to reach a broader group of families who need information to keep their infants and children safe. HUD also participates in the HHS Secretary's Advisory Committee on Infant Mortality in order to inform national strategies and recommendations.

Program and policy solutions include fair housing policies, housing subsidies, and initiatives focused on reducing homelessness. Particular efforts are needed to ensure safe and healthy homes for infants and young children, that is, homes with safety protections (e.g., stair guards, hot water regulators), without environmental toxins (e.g., lead), without vermin infestation, with adequate heat, and with adequate space for safe sleep and play.

**Background resources:**

- Link to article by Rauh et al. regarding housing and health.  
<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18579887>
- Link to article by Donovan on *How Housing Matters: Housing as a Platform for Improving Health Outcomes*.  
<http://www.spotlightonpoverty.org/exclusivecommentary.aspx?id=53e6df1fe7a8-4453-a390-b438ce410106>
- Link to article by Chu et al. on housing influences and safe sleep.  
<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25724752>
- Link to article by Carrion et al on housing instability and birth weight.  
<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25344356>
- Link to article by Allen regarding Boston pregnancy and housing project.  
<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23820672>
- Links to HUD resources.  
[http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program\\_offices/public\\_indian\\_housing/other/sch/about](http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_indian_housing/other/sch/about) and  
[http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program\\_offices/healthy\\_homes/healthyhomes/homesafety](http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/healthy_homes/healthyhomes/homesafety)

## ACE, Trauma, and Resilience

Exposure to abuse, neglect, violence, and other stressors are sometimes called “adverse childhood experiences” or ACE. Building from research conducted through a large, multiyear set of investigations in the ACE study, knowledge has grown regarding the role of early experience on life-long health and well-being. ACEs fall into two general categories: experiences of childhood abuse (e.g., physical, mental, and sexual abuse) and experiences of household dysfunction (e.g., parental substance abuse, mental illness, incarceration, violence and separation or divorce).

For children, ACE can result in toxic stress and disrupted development and health. In addition, adults live with the consequences of ACE, including increased risk for long-term adult health problems (e.g., heart disease, depression, smoking, intimate partner violence, risky sexual behavior, and alcohol or drug abuse). Assessing ACE scores can help to identify and address the effects and trauma for children and adults.

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Notably, adverse experiences and other trauma in childhood are not, however, determinative and do not dictate the future of the child. For some children, ACE are counter balanced with protective factors and resilience. Policies and programs can help ensure protective factors in the lives of many children. The evidence-based *Strengthening Families* program is a widely used approach for serving families at risk, and most home visiting programs have reducing ACE as an objective.

Programs and systems serving women, children, and families must have the capacity and skills to provide “trauma-informed care” for those affected. Trauma-informed care is an evidence-based approach to service delivery that is appropriate for trauma survivors (e.g., those with ACE or toxic stress), including avoiding re-traumatization or victimization. A trauma-informed child- and family-service approach is one in which all parties involved recognize and respond to the impact of ACE, trauma, and toxic stress on children, caregivers, and service providers. Health providers, public health agencies, home visitors, and others working to prevent infant mortality should offer trauma-informed care.

Trauma-informed service providers and agencies follow these principles in the delivery of services: 1) screen for trauma exposure and related symptoms; 2) use culturally appropriate, evidence-based assessment and treatment for traumatic stress and associated symptoms; 3) maximize the child and/or parent's sense of safety; 4) make resources about trauma available to families; 5) engage in efforts to strengthen the resilience and protective factors of children and families affected by and vulnerable to trauma; 6) address parent and caregiver trauma and its impact on the family system; 7) emphasize continuity of care and collaboration across systems; 8) support and promote positive and stable relationships in the life of the child; 9) protect children and youth in custody from further trauma and victimization; and 10) maintain an environment for staff that addresses, minimizes, and treats secondary traumatic stress, and that increases staff resilience.

Promising research related to resiliency pathways is underway. The NIH Community Child Health Network has developed a Preconception Stress and Resiliency Pathways model building local and multisite community-academic participatory partnerships. The model starts before conception, includes all family members, and engages the community vigorously at multiple levels to promote resiliency, reduce chronic and acute stressors, and expand individualized health care that integrates promotion and prevention strategies. It focuses on improving resilience resources of parents, community-level influences, and maternal allostatic load, among other health influences.

States and communities have undertaken efforts to increase use of: individual assessment with interventions; data collection through surveys (e.g. BRFSS); reports on the status of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) among children and adults, intergenerational strength-based and resilience initiatives, and trauma-informed systems of care. The Child and Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative (CAHMI) and Academy Health have launched an initiative to advance a national research, policy and action agenda on ACE. The federal Healthy Start program has placed new

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emphasis on promoting resilience for families and communities in order to reduce infant mortality.

**Background resources:**

- Links to websites on ACE study. <http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/acestudy/> and [www.acestudy.org](http://www.acestudy.org)
- Links to other websites about ACE, trauma, and resilience.
  - o The Child & Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative: <http://www.cahmi.org/projects/adverse-childhood-experiences-aces/>
  - o Robert Wood Johnson Foundation: <http://www.rwjf.org/en/library/collections/aces.html>
  - o American Academy of Pediatrics: [https://www.aap.org/enus/Documents/ttb\\_aces\\_consequences.pdf](https://www.aap.org/enus/Documents/ttb_aces_consequences.pdf)
  - o The Health Federation of Philadelphia. *The Philadelphia Urban ACE Study*: <http://www.instituteforsafefamilies.org/philadelphia-urban-ace-study>
- Links to websites regarding trauma-informed services: <https://captus.samhsa.gov/accessresources/coping-traumatic-events-resources-children-parents-educators-and-other-professional> and
- Links to information regarding the Strengthening Families approach.
  - o Center for the Study of Social Policy: <http://www.cssp.org/reform/strengtheningfamilies>
  - o Strengthening Families Program: <http://www.strengtheningfamiliesprogram.org/>
- Links to examples of state surveillance and program initiatives.
  - o Iowa: [http://www.iowafoodandfitness.org/uploads/PDF\\_File\\_74101481.pdf](http://www.iowafoodandfitness.org/uploads/PDF_File_74101481.pdf)
  - o Alaska: <http://dhss.alaska.gov/abada/ace-ak/Pages/default.aspx>
  - o Minnesota: [http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/chs/brfss/ACE\\_ExecutiveSummary.pdf](http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/chs/brfss/ACE_ExecutiveSummary.pdf)
  - o Washington: <http://www.doh.wa.gov/ForPublicHealthandHealthcareProviders/PublicHealthSystemResourcesandServices/LocalHealthResourcesandTools/MaternalandChildHealthResources/AdverseChildhoodExperiences>
  - o West Virginia: <http://www.legis.state.wv.us/senate1/majority/poverty/ACEsinWashington2009BRFSSFinalReport%20-%20Crittenton.pdf>
  - o Utah: [http://health.utah.gov/opha/publications/hsu/11Jul\\_ACE.pdf](http://health.utah.gov/opha/publications/hsu/11Jul_ACE.pdf)

## Place-Based Initiatives

Research and experience shows that families do better when they live in strong and supportive communities; however, many families live in communities plagued with high levels of poverty, unemployment, failing schools, neighborhood segregation and housing instability. “Place-based initiatives” are designed to improve outcomes and reduce disparities in high-risk communities by reducing the negative impact of social determinants. Their aim is to create a community environment that promotes and protects health, while also addressing individual needs and choices. Placed-based

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initiatives can transform communities into more vibrant, integrated, and healthy communities.

Examples of place-based initiatives include: Best Babies Zones, Best Start LA, Promise Neighborhoods (U.S. Department of Education), Choice Neighborhoods (US Department of Housing and Urban Development), Responsible Redevelopment, and Harlem Children's Zone. In addition, specifically focused on infant mortality, a select group of federally funded Healthy Start projects are incorporating place-based approaches.

The HHS Secretary's Advisory Committee on Infant Mortality recommends expanded use of place-based initiatives to reduce infant mortality. The Center for the Study of Social Policy has efforts underway to provide technical assistance and resources for communities committed to improving outcomes for families through place-based initiatives. The Annie E. Casey Foundation has conducted a 10-year initiative called Making Connections designed to demonstrate how communities can improve results for vulnerable children and families living in areas of concentrated poverty. The W.K. Kellogg Foundation also has work underway in this area.

**Background resources:**

- Links to organizations working on place-based initiatives.
  - o Center for the Study of Social Policy:  
<http://www.cssp.org/community/neighborhoodinvestment/place-based-initiatives>
  - o Promise Neighborhoods Institute: <http://www.promiseneighborhoodsinstitute.org/>
  - o W.K. Kellogg Foundation: [www.wkkf.org](http://www.wkkf.org)
  - o Best Babies Zone: [www.bestbabieszone.org](http://www.bestbabieszone.org)
  - o Edna McConnell Clark evaluation of the Harlem Children's Zone.  
<http://www.emcf.org/our-grantees/our-grantee-portfolio/harlem-childrens-zone/evidencebase/>
- Links to reports and projects using place-based initiatives as an approach to reduce infant mortality.
  - o Secretary's Advisory Committee on Infant Mortality:  
<http://www.hrsa.gov/advisorycommittees/mchbadvisory/InfantMortality/Correspondence/recommendationsjan2013.pdf>
  - o Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs:  
<http://www.amchp.org/SiteCollectionDocuments/Connecting%20the%20Dots%20Proceedings%20FINAL.pdf>
  - o National Healthy Start Association: <http://www.nationalhealthystart.org/>
  - o HRSA Maternal and Child Health Healthy Start Program:  
<http://mchb.hrsa.gov/programs/healthystart/>

**Social Networking for Empowerment**

Strengthening and broadening the use of social network capacity for empowerment is a key strategy. Whether using online social networking technological tools, face-to-face meetings of a social support, moms groups, community engagement, or other

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approaches, connecting women as mothers and/or parents to peer support and communication, the salience of social networking is widely understood.

Increasing personal capital and social support during pregnancy may influence subsequent maternal and child health outcomes. A study of the role of personal capital comprised of internal resources (self-esteem and mastery) and social resources (partner, social network, and community support) during pregnancy found that the risks associated with low socioeconomic status, single motherhood, and limited acculturation contribute to low personal capital for many pregnant women, rather than race or ethnicity per se. A social network, including friends, family, neighbors, and media sources, is a key source of contraceptive and pregnancy related information for many women, including adolescents. Social networks also influence decisions and behaviors related to smoking, prenatal care use, breastfeeding, and parenting. Social support is strongly related to levels of stress and depression. Research also shows that families who have experienced pregnancy loss or infant death can be helped by peer and social support groups.

New mother support groups are considered a promising practice. At the macro level, millions of pregnant women and new mothers engage in mother support groups online and in person. Experience in Cincinnati, Ohio and other communities across the country demonstrate the value of "mom's clubs" or "family support groups" for serving pregnant women and parents of young children in high-risk communities. Research from Australia and Norway suggest that such groups may have a high level of continuation and provide measurable support, particularly when initiated by health professionals (e.g., public health nurses).

One of the six goals for the future vision of women's health research, set out by the Institute of Medicine in 2010, was to develop and implement new communication and social networking technologies to increase understanding and appreciation of women's health and wellness. To date there is very modest evidence that interventions incorporating online social networks may be effective. A systematic review of text messaging strategies related to maternal and child health found that 48 articles, of which 30 were randomized controlled trials, were available but varied greatly in quality and collectively indicate that text message interventions can effectively promote a wide range of preventative behaviors, including smoking cessation, diabetes control, appointment reminders, medication adherence, weight loss, and vaccine uptake.

**Background resources:**

□ Link to articles related to Internet and phone communications:

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25081242>

□ Links to articles on the role of social networks and social support in improving maternal and infant health outcomes.

o Preterm birth and social support during pregnancy: a Systematic review and metaanalysis: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/26332279>

o New mother groups as a social network intervention: consumer and maternal and child health nurse perspectives: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/11878547>

o Are Health Behavior Change Interventions That Use Online Social Networks Effective?



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A Systematic Review: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3936265/>

- o Racial and ethnic disparities in personal capital during pregnancy: findings from the 2007 Los Angeles Mommy and Baby (LAMB) study:

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23504131>

- o Does social network site use matter for mothers? Implications for bonding and bridging capital: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0747563214001174>

- o The role of the social network in contraceptive decision-making among young, African American and Latina women: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20864007>

- o Pregnancy discovery and acceptance among low-income primiparous women: a multicultural exploration: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/11573836>

- o Support for mothers, fathers and families after perinatal death:

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23784865>

- ☐ Link to articles regarding engagement

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24474593>

- ☐ Link to Forbes article about online moms groups and social support.

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/davidshaywitz/2013/05/22/online-mothers-groups-powerfulunheralded-influencers-of-family-healthcare-decisions/>

**APPENDIX E**

**INFANT MORTALITY COLLABORATIVE IMPROVEMENT AND INNOVATION NETWORK  
SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH LEARNING NETWORK (SEPTEMBER 2015)**

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<b>SDOH and Health Equity Measures for Perinatal, Infant, and Family Health</b>	
<b>DRAFT Prepared November 2018.</b>	
Measures (percentage unless stated; by race, ethnicity, and income where possible)	Data Source
<b>Outcome measures</b>	
Infant Mortality Disparity Ratio	Vital statistics
Infant, neonatal, postneonatal, fetal, and perinatal mortality rates per 1,000 live births	Vital statistics
Maternal mortality rates per 100,000 live births	Vital statistics
Preterm birth, live births born <37 weeks gestation	Vital statistics
Live births weighing less than 1,500 grams (3.4 pounds)	Vital statistics
Live births weighing less than 2,500 grams (5.5 pounds)	Vital statistics
Birthweight at or below the 10th percentile for a given gestational age (SGA)	Vital statistics
Sudden infant death syndrome/Sudden unexplained infant death (SIDS/SUID) rate per 1,000 live births	Vital statistics
<b>Other SDOH measures</b>	
Adults reporting racial discrimination in health care	BRFSS
Women who experienced discrimination right before or during pregnancy	PRAMS
Residential segregation, black-white (rank scale 0 integrated to 100 segregated)	Census / ACS
Children living in households by head of household's educational attainment	Census
Births to women who had completed fewer than 12 years of education at the time of the birth	Vital statistics
Unemployment rate	Census/state
Infants under age 1 ( <b>or children under 6</b> ) who live in families with incomes below the federal poverty level	Census
Median household income	Census
Young children (<6 years of age) with elevated blood lead levels (≥5 ug/dL)	State
Households with at least 1 of 4 housing problems: overcrowding, high costs, or lack kitchen or plumbing facilities	Census
Adults reporting that they receive the social and emotional support they need	BRFSS
Women reporting two or more stressors during pregnancy	PRAMS
Infants with substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect (rate per 1,000)	State
Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) among adults (4+)	BRFSS
Children ages 0-6 (or 0-17) experiencing two or more adverse childhood experiences (ACEs)	BRFSS / NSCH
Intimate partner victimizations among persons age 12 or older (rate per 1,000)	BRFSS
Women who have recently given birth who report experience postpartum depression following a live birth	PRAMS
Households with children <6 (or <18) years of age experiencing food insecurity	USDA
Infants born to mothers who initiate breastfeeding	Immunization or NBS
Women (who delivered a live birth and were trying to get pregnant) who had one or more alcoholic drinks in an average week during the 3 months before pregnancy	PRAMS
Women who smoke in the last three months of pregnancy	PRAMS
Infants placed to sleep on their backs	PRAMS
No health insurance coverage among adults aged 18-64	NHIS / Census
Children ages 0 through 17 who are adequately insured	NHIS / Census
<b>Measures for Monitoring Unequal Treatment and Access</b>	
Women using contraception postpartum	PRAMS
Pregnant women who receive prenatal care in the first trimester	Vital stats
Women delivering a live birth who had a previous preterm birth receiving 17P during their pregnancy	State
Cesarean Delivery Among Low Risk First Birth	Vital stats
Very low birthweight (VLBW) infants born in a hospital with a Level III+ NICU (risk appropriate care)	State
Women with a recent live birth who reported receiving a postpartum checkup	PRAMS
Women with a past year preventive medical visit	BRFSS / NHIS
Medicaid-enrolled infants who received at least one initial or periodic (EPSDT) screen in year	CMS 416
Well-child visits in the first 15 months of life	CMS/State / HEDIS

**APPENDIX F**

**HIGH RISK ZONES MAP**

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Embedded PDF risk maps.

### High Risk Healthy Women Healthy Babies Zone, Delaware, 2010-2017

